



THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND STUDENT MAGAZINE

#02

# CRACKUM



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ARTIST CREDIT: YOU THE GOOD PEOPLE OF UO! WE COLLECTED STUDENT-MADE BADGES MADE DURING O-WEEK TO BRING YOU THIS WEEKS EDITORIAL.

# It's time to stop shitting on AUT.

I know, I know! To many of you, these words will seem crazy. As we struggle through studying at a university that hates its students almost as much as it hates its staff, it seems like shitting on AUT is so often what binds us together.

But it's time to take a step back, we are blinded by Dawn Freshwater's \$755,000 golden rays. While we may feel like natural enemies, we Auckland few aren't so different after all, we even share a land border. Indeed many of our students once went to AUT and many of us too may one day attend. Let's be honest: as revealed in last week's smash hit *Craccum* article, *UoA stereotypes*, we can be little bit up ourselves. Of course we are! The only reason we came here instead of enjoying AUT's far superior buildings were those top rankings nobody except your mum actually cares about. God bless the marketing department. Just make sure not to tell your parents AUT has poached half the lecturers that got us the prestige.

We can still maintain this superiority complex, but it's time to think bigger.

We need to unite against the real menace, *everyone else*. Stop shitting on your fellow JAFAs and remember what binds us together; the best food, the best LGBT+ scene, the hottest yoga mummies, the swoolest gym zaddies, and most importantly a capacity to turn our noses up so high the entire country is constantly pressed about it. Not least of all the *Critic Te Ārohi* comment section, who somehow managed to get offended by an article specifically designed to make fun of UoA students. It's high time we appreciate that while our student culture is on life support, at least we don't have a butthurt culture to go along with it.

Rest assured that *Craccum* will be here substituting the juicy meat of student culture (getting drunk) with our own special brand of textured soy protein (light reading). With the largest number of closeted bisexuals on staff ever, *Craccum* is ready to deliver Auckland's classic metrosexual charms; complimented by a general air of bitchiness. Our first target? Ourselves. It appears in our desire to bring last week's smash hit & critically acclaimed

first issue to the masses as soon as possible. We neglected to enable spell check. Sleep easy knowing that after consulting with several experts from across the university, and your mum. We are proud to present you with: Issue two, *now with spell check!* We also have a very special message to John Campbell Who, while he does command a large following of young fanatics, is not a cult leader. John Cameron is the man, the myth and quite literally the legend behind passion Auckland and It was actually his brother Brent who engaged in what some have described as a "nudity incident". Unfortunately we made the mistake of eating hot chip while editing and were unable to prevent ourselves from lying. We hope you can forgive us but if you can't, oh well.

It's time to pull up a chair, strap yourself in, and get ready for the best damn 40 pages of your life. Welcome...to Issue 2 (unofficially the UoA + AUT friendship edition). If you're unhappy with this shift in direction, please email your complaints to [editor@craccum.co.nz](mailto:editor@craccum.co.nz) 🍌.



# Sex, drugs... and rock n roll?

How to keep safe when you're tripping (and sucking) balls this semester



TALIA NICOL

We've all heard the rumour that sex is better when you're high. If you're looking to test that rumour out while your sex playlist is blasting to drown out the sound of your flatmate screaming at you through the wall, we're here to help.

Not sure whether your MDMA is spiked with bath salts? Not particularly keen to find that one out the hard way; when you're a third year headed to Bar101 to hook up with freshers on a Wednesday night? Plan in advance to stay safe.

This semester, a free and confidential drug checking clinic will be running through the Caretaker's Cottage in Albert Park on March 9, March 25, and May 4. If you're unable to make any of these dates, various other clinic dates are available at The Hempstore (253 Karangahape Rd). A full list of these dates and times can be found at [thelevel.org.nz/drug-checking-clinics](http://thelevel.org.nz/drug-checking-clinics).

Drug checking is now 100% legal in Aotearoa, since the Drug and Substance Checking Legislation Act 2021 was passed. You are not breaking any laws by getting your drugs tested (you are breaking laws by consuming them, but we're going to assume you already know this). Drug checking services will also not ask for your name or any identifiable information when you attend these clinics. Any and all chemical substances you're planning on taking can be checked.

The checking process will take around five minutes per drug, and the sample size of your drug taken will be around the same size as a match head. Please, don't be a pompous asshole about your

safety—it's so much better to sacrifice a little bit of your substance for the sake of waking up the next day and getting to brag to your mates about how cool the lights looked while you were high as a kite.

protection was the last thing on your mind? Don't stress! Free Plan B is here, and it's available through the Unichem Campus Pharmacy (City Campus only) and Student Health and Counselling Services. It can be accessed without a script or an appointment from the pharmacy, though booking an appointment with a nurse is required if going through the Student Health and Counselling Services. A simple consultation is all that needs to happen before you get Plan B and a pregnancy test.

It's worth noting that even though Plan B is famously referred to as the 'morning after pill,' we're here to break that myth: The Plan B on campus is clinically proven to be effective for up to 72 hours after sex, though it's worth noting that the level of effectiveness does diminish over time.

If you're having sex with someone that is not your monogamous partner, it's also important to get tested at regular intervals. The University is hosting free sexual health screening services in conjunction with Auckland Sexual Health Services and the Burnett Foundation Aotearoa on the first Tuesday of each month. These pop-in clinics are operating this semester on April 4, May 2, June 6, and July 4, between 2 and 5pm in Workshop 101 (Kate Edger Information Commons).

Finally, if you're looking for a place to get free condoms before the fun gets started (because what wanker is paying \$22.99 for a box of 20 durex condoms from Countdown?) these are available in all University Halls of Residence, and at the University Health and Counselling facilities.



Accidents happen during sex. Was your last one night stand looking so slay that suddenly the absence of

# Calamity GPT

## How UOA learns to love the Bomb



OLIVER COCKER

Since ChatGPT, a chatbot developed by OpenAI was publicly released at the end of November last year, it has been the subject of increasing interest that often borders on hysteria. *ChatGPT passes four Law Exams. ChatGPT passes the Engineering interview. ChatGPT passes a Medical Licensing exam.* It seems the doomsday scenario for a University that has pivoted towards online assessment, and it is undoubtedly another turning point in UoA's history, but UoA's Education Office has already put processes in place.

Recall that calculators didn't take Maths out of fashion, the internet did not stop us from learning, and text-to-speech definitely has not made us illiterate. Everything is integrated, styles change, and everyone too old to experience it complains about how different it is to their day. Yet remaining stagnant is not good for the health of any pool. The Education Office Bulletin from the University outlines how they plan to take on this new challenge:

Prepare for a wider range of assessments, especially in-person, as well as oral presentations and the dreaded group assignments taking more precedence in some areas. Self-reflections and comments on the class are likely to be more widespread.

**Summarised,  
prepare for  
a group, oral  
presentation on  
how you were  
deeply moved by  
your lecturer's  
tangent about  
getting to work.**

Personal experience and feelings too; ChatGPT refused to emote when consulted for this article. Summarised, prepare for a group, oral presentation on how you were deeply moved by your lecturer's tangent about getting to work.

An aspect that the bulletin did not address but will be very relevant in any rapidly developing fields, is that ChatGPT was only trained with data up to September 2021. The AI is not sure if there is a war in Ukraine, how many people have caught COVID, nor that the Public Holiday at the end of this semester is now called King's Birthday. Expect research on the last eighteen months to suddenly become much more applicable once the University reads this article.

The AI itself lists repetitiveness, consistency of style, issues with jokes and sarcasm, less emotional nuance, and repetitiveness as means of identifying its work in comparison to human work. It can also be quite repetitive. Students who submit assignments with little variation, bizarre idioms, and cold undertones; that is, business and law students, should expect to be checked by GPTZero or any similar tool

GPTZero is an AI detection tool developed by a Princeton University student that aims to classify text as AI-generated or human. It is not foolproof, indeed, on investigation, it was shown that a sufficient amount of human work can disguise any AI section. But it does provide a first step, particularly for identifying sections which are largely generated. The University is encouraging all markers to run assignments through the software as a baseline. This article is identified

as wholly human-written, which is fortunate, because it is.

It was released only a month after the public launch of ChatGPT, and since then, development has kept roughly at pace with AI. More companies and organisations are putting funding into detection and sorting software, with

even OpenAI releasing ZeroGPT to detect their own outputs. The naming scheme for these algorithms is infinitely creative.

A Teachwell University Panel has provided three different sets of rules for courses to use as a baseline for use of chatbots. The first is a total ban. Simple in understanding, probably very close to impossible in execution. AI is treated as if it is another student, and significant cooperation is academic dishonesty. The second ruleset is based on gaining permission. In this, students can use AI whenever the instructor tells them, or if independent permission is sought.

And finally, a total allowance, so long as the AI's work is credited at the end of any essay. In this way, the examiner separates out work that is wholly your own and that which is assisted.

The panel has also outlined some suggestions for incorporating ChatGPT into assessments themselves. Critiquing AI-generated texts and even letting students make assignments with AI may be possible over the coming years. Both cover various parts of the University's skills lists and may prove useful for the workplace. All of this is, of course, up to the discretion of the course manager. One would expect those that embrace it in their assignments to suddenly become much more popular.

Alex Sims, a UoA business professor, has claimed in her article "*ChatGPT and the future of university assessments*," that the answers chatbots give are "pure luck." And although it's not entirely untrue, it misses the mark of how these machines operate. The AI uses statistical data to determine how to write a sentence and fills it with data that it has been provided from the internet. Sometimes that means it can be confidently wrong, something humans are more than capable of being. But that does not make it truly random, because if it was, it would be entirely undetectable and probably useless. As the data and the analysis gets better, AI will get better at tasks, it will pass more and more assessments, and mitigating that advancement will see you left behind.

**Students who submit assignments with little variation, bizarre idioms, and cold undertones; that is, business and law students, should expect to be checked by GPTZero or any similar tool**

On the other side, Sims acknowledges that a total ban or most attempts to prevent usage are not constructive for a modern university. Making the canny comment that we will not be in competition with AI, but "people who are adept and skilled at using such tools." It is an enhancement of skills. Like the calculator or excel spreadsheet, it will improve students' skills beyond what they could normally achieve and upon entering the workforce, it will no doubt become a useful ally in many facets of daily life.

An unidentified lecturer would like it to be known that the usage of ChatGPT to mark assignments has been broached at their meetings. It seems a true double standard. If this goes ahead we may even end up with situations where an AI writes an essay, an AI checks the essay, and no knowledge has been gained.

ChatGPT was approached for comment and would like the world to know that it represents the cutting edge of technology (Only a little ego in the machine that claims to have no emotions). It insists it exists only to be "a useful tool for answering questions and providing information" and inspiration to the next generation of AI. It also hopes that it can contribute to the conversation about technology and its many uses, it has certainly achieved that.

**...we may even end up with situations where an AI writes an essay, an AI checks the essay, and no knowledge has been gained.**



# Summer School students left “high and dry” by the University during torrential rain

The University screws up a national emergency response, again



TALIA NICOL

In anticipation of Cyclone Gabrielle causing major weather disruptions across the Auckland region and beyond, the University announced on February 10 that all Summer School examinations for the week commencing February 13 would take place online. This involved a shift of over 20 examinations planned to take place on campus to online mediums.


The key difference to previous online exam periods? Students with exams on February 13 and 14 would be unable to use campus spaces to sit exams online if their personal environment was unsuitable, with the Vice Chancellor issuing a statement that, “All services that are unable to move to online mode will be closed on Monday and Tuesday. This includes retail outlets, cafes, the Recreation Centre, events and any other physical spaces on campus such as libraries, student commons and study spaces. All buildings on campus will be locked from Sunday evening.”

The response of the University to this unprecedented weather event prompted mass outrage from students across all facilities, who highlighted the lack of equity and empathy towards those impacted by the floods in the process. Once again, it seems that the University just attempted to stick their band-aid of compassionate consideration over the seeping, bloody wound of a national

emergency—for those seasoned students among us, this feels very reminiscent of 2020, and students were once again left reeling.

Much like the weather, students flooded to social media to request support from the University, with one student commenting, “What should I do, if I cannot study online due to no power?” The University’s social media response: “If you are impacted by the cyclone and are unable to sit your exam or something unforeseen has impacted your exam preparation or performance, you may be able to apply for an aegrotat or compassionate consideration.” Another student asked, “Is there accommodation for families who are affected?” to which the University responded, “Please visit the link in bio to see what support we have available.” Naturally, we did, and unfortunately for this student, there is zero mention of accommodation support for those impacted by the floods. The closest option was a link to book a nice half-hour visit to the staff at Campus Care, who probably aren’t well equipped to shackle you and your family up in any University accommodation that same day. There’s sure to be a nice cup of tea available though, and maybe the Vice Chancellor has a spare room going at her \$5 million mansion? Actually, sorry: that was coincidentally sold off after an Auditor-General report was published regarding its inequity in resource management (seeing a pattern, anyone?)





So what should have been done for these Summer School exams? We acknowledge that this was an emergency, and that the University was under immense pressure to make a quick decision. By all means, a difficult call needed to be made in a matter of a few days. Even in practice and with the power of hindsight, the call still feels inadequate.

For starters, it seems immediately clear that there were other options available—for instance, postponing exams. *Craccum* reached out to the University for an official response on why examinations were not postponed, and we were informed that, “The situation was constantly monitored in the lead up to and during Summer School exams, including meeting ahead of each exam session on February 13 and 14 with the latest data from Auckland Emergency Management, NEMA, Vector, and Metservice, alongside the number of students unable to access and/or submit their exam to see whether postponement was appropriate at any time. Prior d

iscussions about postponement took into account the impact that would have on students (e.g. consideration was given to the impact on students if exams were postponed including stress and uncertainty, delays getting results impacting future study, and employment and logistical issues for students).”

Of course, alongside logistical issues for students, what goes unsaid by the University is that offering a more flexible response for student exams would have resulted in an intensive few days of reorganising and planning. However, this seems like a fair and reasonable trade-off for a solution that does a better job at achieving equity. Also, we’d think that a three day delay in getting exam results back might not

be as big of a deal as, say, a multiple week delay in getting exam results back due to the TEU strikes (caused by the University’s refusal to meet their demands). Where was all this student centred discussion of “stress” and “delays” in November when students were left without marks for almost a month?

Alternative recourse could’ve also included transferring online exams to become 24 or 48 hour take home assignments (as was done in Semester One of 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic) or assigning essay questions or PILOs in lieu of final exams. Indeed, it seems on a case by case basis, some of these options were taken by individual lecturers—one politics student told *Craccum* that his exam needed to be sat on campus, and was actually rescheduled for the following week. However, changes were not widespread, with the majority of students still expected to sit exams from home under time restrictions.

So, what does the University want you to do if your flat starts flooding during an exam? Just pop your feet up on your chair at your desk—you’ll barely even notice the small lake in your bedroom is there! If your power goes out? That’s fine, use the non-existent leftovers of your weekly student loan payment to buy endless data and hope that your cell tower doesn’t drop down too. Remember, the University will continue to offer aegrotats and compassionate

considerations to students impacted by flooding, so you can always take that C- you got on the mid-semester essay! However, if by chance you failed the only other assessment you’ve had prior to your exam, you won’t be eligible for this, sorry. The good news is that you can cry about this injustice while scooping buckets of water from your flat basement, and you’ll barely even notice the extra water! If things were that dire and you really didn’t want to fail that paper, it probably wasn’t too much for you to don a wetsuit, mount your broken desk, row over fallen trees and houses to your local McDonald’s, and sit that darned exam on their shitty wifi while water seeps in over the top of your gumboots. Remember the University motto: Ingenio et Labore, “By Natural Ability and Hard Work.” This is what is expected of you, as a student at this fine institution.

After all, Summer School student Caden reminded us that there’s always ways to make sure you sit your exam—the University’s number one priority—telling *Craccum*, “If my power goes out, I’m going to the Vice Chancellor’s house to sit my exam, because she said we need to find a suitable location—where else would be better?”



# TE MATATINI IN T

## Nā Mairātea Mohi me Te Hoata Rāta

Aotearoa gathered around their tellys from 22-25 February to witness one of the largest showcases of mana māori with Te Matatini. From their respective homes in Tamaki Makaurau and Kirikiriroa, Editors Mairātea Mohi (Craccum) and Te Hoata Rāta (Nexus) came together to kōrero about the importance and controversies surrounding this years 'Māori Olympics.'

### A Week of Whakapiki Wairua

The piupiu have returned to their long sock homes, poi and pari have been accounted for as the 'Māori Olympics' officially come to a close. Te Matatini 2023 has been hailed as a week of success, drawing viewers in the millions, setting an unprecedented social media buzz and creating spaces for authentic Māori expression which proved needed in refilling the wairua reservoirs of Ngai Māori.

This year Eden Park was inundated with whānau, friends and supporters. The streets of Tāmaki Makaurau filled with traffic lights displaying silhouetted poi-twirling wāhine, decorated double deckers and the iconic skytower projecting haka highlights for all.

The week kicked off in Ōkahu Bay with Ngāti Whātua ki Ōrākei welcoming over 1,000 manuhiri from across the motu and the Tasman.

Situating the welcome pōhiri at the base of their tribal urupā while surrounded by hillside mansions talks to the entrenched history between Ngāti Whātua and the Crown.

The wrought relationship brought vigorous debate amongst those on the paepae where a high-calibre of language, dance, culture, poetry, politics, and music presented itself even before the festival.

Kaikōrero from across Tainui and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei entered the realm of Tūmataunga to battle over who is mana whenua at the pōwhiri. While the insults flew fast and furiously (zoom) the debate showed the very essence of tikanga alive and well.

Tainui leader Tukoroirangi Morgan laid down a kaupapa to Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. Kōrero around the aforementioned mana whenua ensued. Taiaho Kapea of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

replied with disgust, declining the koha—that had come from Tainui and four other roopu at the pōhiri.

Ngāpuhi tāne, Penetaui Kleskovic, received the koha, stating that it would then go to the whānau of Matua Vincent Heperi, who'd passed earlier in the day.

While the media eruption surrounding the debate over proprietary reigns is true, the kōrero then turns to tangata whenua over the importance of shared space and rightful kokoraho over the whenua. Amidst the online flurry of opinion and varied advice, there's a shared consensus through Māori media that the focus has shifted into what can only be described as 'social warfare'.

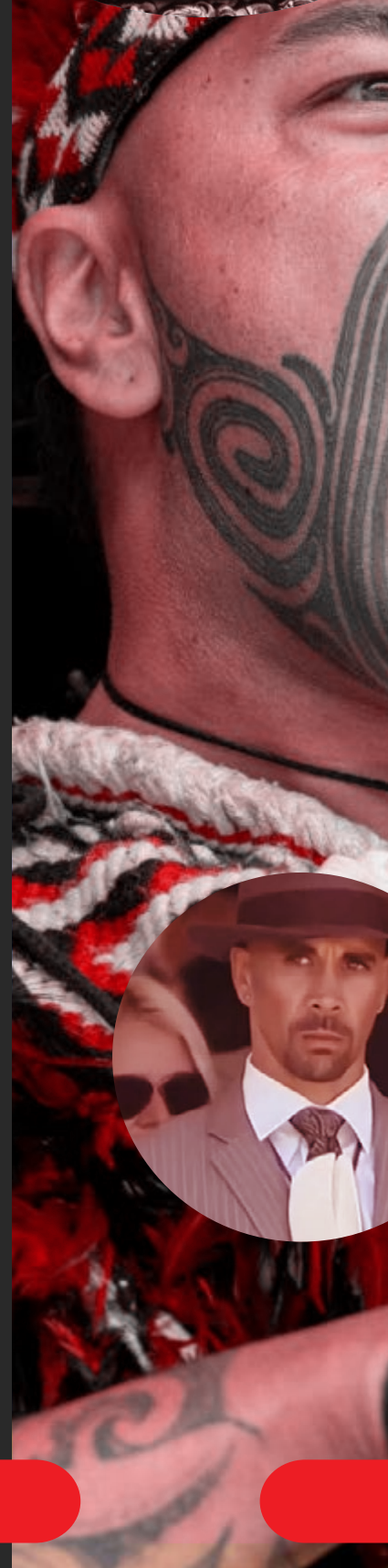
Atakura Hunia, Tūmuaki wahine of the University of Auckland Māori association—Ngā Tauira Māori and Ngāti Whātua ki Ōrākei uri, saw the brilliance in the display of culture.

"I thought the pōwhiri was beautiful. After four years of limited and restricted kaupapa Māori we were able to reconnect at the biggest national kapa haka festival in the world...I think the pōwhiri gave everyone a bit of fire in their belly regardless of what iwi or ethnicity you are, this was reflected by the whaikōrero, karanga, and items performed on stage. I'm proud of my iwi, 20yrs ago we were not in a position to provide the calibre of kaikōrero, kaikaranga, kaiwero that we have today. It is because of our kaumātua and their sacrifices, our parents and their investment in our uri that we have been able to invest in the development and growth of te reo Māori within our whānau and hapori."

Te Matatini has brought a zest back to the sleepy streets of Auckland. One University of Auckland student, Rapata Nikora Te Ao Mohe Kingi Areta Biddle said,

"It was the most packed I had ever seen at Eden park, even for a Matatini event. The reason being that so many people who had attended the event weren't Māori. However, it wasn't strange to see so many different cultures among te iwi Māori at Matatini because it was the first time that the event was advertised and broadcasted outside of Whakaata Māori and actually on TVNZ on Demand."

The Te Matatini week brought the first Te Reo Māori Air NZ flight to Auckland while also claiming air time through mainstream





# THE MAINSTREAM



broadcaster TVNZ for the first time in 20 years.

Students of Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato banded together to either make the trip north or to huddle around the screen as they cheered on their roopu. When asked about the importance of mainstream access, Waikato taura Kaihutu Rawiri Mason spoke on the accessibility,

“Astangatawhenua who can’t make the journey with prior commitments, it was important to be able to see our people displayed so openly on TV that everyone watches. Whakaata Māori is algood but sometimes you just want to send links to your pākehā friends so they don’t have to sign up.”

Communication Advisor, Moko Tini Templeton said the 1.8 million accumulated streams could not have been done without the many hands of Māori, mainstream and student media.

“The cohesion, learning and connections made by all media partners is what made the festival so successful,” Templeton remarks.

As host of the last Te Matatini broadcasted on TVNZ, Templeton talks to the expertise of seasoned media moguls and the fresh new perspective of junior writers.

“Working together has been a relearning process for all of us. We all have unique attributes we bring to the table, which have helped us represent all ages and voices.”

Te Ao Māori have been greatly anticipating Te Matatini since its initial cancellation in 2021 and the threat of postponement by Cyclone Gabrielle was a heavily debated topic.

The Te Matatini organisers, recognising the need for a moment of whakapiki wairua, ensured additional travel support, as well as a \$10,000 kōha went to those affected most.

A poignant performance was by te roopu Matangirau, who traversed the Ngāti Kahungunu plains to attend the festival. Bringing mud covered legs to the stage they vividly gestured towards the destruction of the cyclone upon their rohe.

Templeton talks about the resilient nature of the roopu who encouraged the festival to keep going, “[Ngāti Kahungunu] asked us to continue. Because at the end of the day we

agreed it’s not just about the individual but representing the mana of your people.”

Te Matatini has become a place of transformation. Tuhoe Tamaiparea and Pere Wihongi of the kapa Angitū challenged gender roles by standing in the poi line alongside their female teammates and chanting alongside their male counterparts during the haka. All with the backing of leadership behind them.

“It’s a huge, huge step for us... we’ve been longing to do the poi on a Matatini stage and as our authentic self,” Wihongi said.

With the addition of heavy coverage comes heavy controversy. Angitū, while groundbreaking in their whakaaro, faced immense criticism through online platforms with comments ranging from light-hearted retorts to full-swings of power exertion.

Te Matatini is also a place to share one’s Māoritanga, connect with whānau and has also proved an effective platform to network.

With the likes of Māori royalty and MP’s like Willie Jackson and Debbie Ngarewa packer making an appearance, there were also visits made by Prime Minister Hipkins and Auckland Minister, Michael Wood.

Politics were played on and off the stage as Māori academics, lawmakers and Matatini viewers questioned the government’s funding arrangements for Te Matatini.

In an independent report by Ngā Pae o Te Maramatanga—New Zealand’s Māori Centre of Research Excellence, it found that Te Matatini benefits the economy, health, social, and cultural wellbeing of Aotearoa New Zealand’s people.

In the criticism levelled at the Labour government, it has been revealed that Te Matatini earns significantly less, while servicing many more people, locally and globally. Te Matatini currently receives \$2.9 million while other cultural organisations such as The New Zealand Symphony Orchestra receives \$19.7 million.

Prime Minister Chris Hipkins announced (last) Monday that Te Matatini funding options will be explored.

# TAUIRA RESPONSE

As a result of major mainstream coverage, one of the more interesting factors of this year's Te Matatini was the national response through Roopu Māori.

Tauira Māori of Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato were approached during their annual club's day last week to kōrero about the importance of Te Matatini and our representation. Though it was hard to kōrero without first recognising the rejected koha from Tukoroirangi Morgan. Many of the tauira whakapapa to Waikato-Tainui with thoughts shared but not recorded.

When prompted with pātai surrounding Te Matatini, tauira Monnie Tuuta-Roberts spoke on the understanding of contemporary Kapa Haka,

"[Kapa haka] is so complex, you know?

There's so much kaupapa that it's hard to sit in that space and not form some idea of how to interpret poi and whakawātea. But it's something that needs to be cherished and nurtured if we're going to draw some sort of connection to Māoritanga. The kaupapa remains though, it's just how we interpret it."

While other takes include how we can kōrero against the idea that there's overfunding to a 'glorified polyfest'. Anahera Harris spoke on the topic, citing a tiktok comment under poi from Angitū,

"I saw a comment that said 'Māori receive scholarships and grants, why do they need this'. I want to just comment on the level of disrespect it takes to discredit kaupapa māori without first beginning the process of understanding. Tō tero."

"Angitū speak for rangatahi māori, it's not empty kōrero nor is it brand new. [Te Ao Māori] is changing but are we changing with it? I can't answer that—but it was nice to see takatāpui representation on the main stage"

There's no consensus through rangatahi māori, but a similar gratitude to TVNZ for showcasing roopu and tangata whenua alike—welcoming us all into a future of māori through mainstream displays of mana. The kōrero now shifts to what is happening next and where Māoritanga will go next, and how contemporary trends will be incorporated moving forward.







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# Is ChatGPT All Talk and No Action?

An expert weighs in on the hype surrounding the AI chatbot



NANCY GUO

This year, a hot new AI bot has entered the villa. Capturing headlines and the hearts of tech investors, Miss ChatGPT has been making her presence known online and in mainstream media. Even everyone's favourite big boy billionaire, Bill Gates, was desperate to shower the chatbot with compliments when he deemed ChatGPT as the "most important" innovation right now.

Aside from kicking up a storm online, the emergence of ChatGPT has also sent the likes of Dawn Freshwater into a scramble as they try to determine its appropriate role in academic learning, before students decide to use the chatbot to complete entire Bachelor degrees.

Although the technology was only

launched last year in November, the chatbot has naturally garnered significant buzz among students, generating both praise and scepticism.

Some students told *Craccum* that they've already used the chatbot to help plan their assignments, or even complete work for their university clubs. Others said that although they had not used ChatGPT yet, they were open to adopting the chatbot to help with their academic learning.

On the flipside, several students told *Craccum* that they were firmly against using the AI in an academic context. Some said that they preferred to challenge themselves by completing their work independently, or were

fearful of getting in trouble for academic misconduct.

"Never in a billion, trillion, zillion years, because when you cheat, you're only cheating yourself," commented one student.

Evidently, student opinion on ChatGPT seems pretty divided. Instead of listening to the shouts of Boomers bewailing the end of civilisation as we know it, *Craccum* decided to speak to Qiming Bao, a UoA researcher who studies question-answering AI, about the role of ChatGPT in academic learning and what this means for students.

So, how exactly does ChatGPT actually work? According to Qiming, when you



strip it down to its basics, ChatGPT is a type of machine learning model that generates natural language responses to a given question or input, using the patterns and relationships it has learned from the colossal swaths of text data available on the internet.

"During training, ChatGPT is presented with many examples of text, where it will try to identify patterns and relationships between different words and phrases. When you input a question or statement into ChatGPT, the first thing it does is break it down into individual 'tokens', or words," explained Qiming.

Once the input text has been split into individual words, each word is then converted into a numerical representation. Qiming added that this allows the chatbot to work with the text as numbers, so that it can make a prediction of what the most likely response would be based on its training data.

To produce a response that's actually readable by humans, Qiming said that ChatGPT will then "choose the most likely response using its probability distribution of all possible responses, before converting the numerical representation of the selected response back into natural language text", aka regular human speak.

Many students are also curious about the hype surrounding the chatbot and its capacity to disrupt the way universities teach and assess their students. Is ChatGPT actually a threat to academic learning as we know it? Qiming explains:

"ChatGPT is a tool designed to assist with learning and academic research, not to replace it. While there have been concerns about AI technology potentially replacing certain human jobs, including some academic roles, I believe that there will always be a need for human expertise, critical thinking, and creativity in the academic realm."

Instead of seeing ChatGPT as a threat to academic learning, Qiming recommends viewing these AI language models as "powerful tools for expanding and enhancing educational opportunities".

"With the ability to access and process vast amounts of information quickly and

efficiently, AI language models can help students and researchers to explore new ideas, identify patterns and trends, and develop insights that may have been difficult or impossible to uncover otherwise."

He commented that AI chatbots can be particularly useful in areas such as language learning, translation, and natural language processing, as they are adept at bridging communication barriers and promoting cross-cultural understanding.

"By working together, humans and AI can achieve greater levels of knowledge and understanding than either could alone."

With the huge amount of attention and investment ChatGPT's parent company OpenAI has received in recent months, and its uncanny ability to provide human-sounding responses, many of us wonder if it's almost too impressive to be true? Qiming pointed out that ChatGPT has its limitations, particularly in the context of supporting academic learning.

One major shortcoming is the chatbot's inability to provide personalised feedback. While ChatGPT is great at providing general information, Qiming explains that it falls short in tailoring its responses to the specific and unique needs of individual learners.

Essentially, its "intelligence" is restricted to the data that is available to the chatbot. Qiming explained that ChatGPT's responses are based on the data it has been trained on. If the data is limited or outdated, then ChatGPT may not provide "the most accurate or up-to-date information." This is particularly an issue for students seeking answers for niche topics, as ChatGPT does not have access to information on specialised or highly technical topics and fields.

The AI technology's brains also has problems with understanding complicated questions that require multiple layers of analysis or critical thinking, including multi-step reasoning, logical equivalence, and more complex logical reasoning tasks.

Even with all of its imperfections and limitations, perhaps the most pressing question in the minds of students is whether we should use ChatGPT to

support our learning or not.

Qiming shares his opinion:

"ChatGPT can provide students with useful information and insights that can support their learning. However, ChatGPT should not be the sole source of information for their education. Students should utilise a variety of resources, including textbooks, lectures, and personal interaction with teachers, peers, and experts."

In the event that students decide to utilise ChatGPT to assist their learning, Qiming suggests using the chatbot as a research tool by asking questions, which can allow students to obtain factual background knowledge, a better understanding of a concept, or review their understanding of a particular subject by asking ChatGPT related questions.

Students can also improve their writing skills by practising writing to ChatGPT, and the chatbot can provide them with feedback and suggestions.

However, Qiming adds that it's important to remember that ChatGPT cannot replace the role of a teacher or a tutor.

"If students are struggling with a particular concept, they should seek help from a qualified teacher or tutor. Additionally, it's essential to validate the information provided by ChatGPT before using it as a reference in their academic work."

Just like the emergence of the internet or the calculator, it's highly unlikely that ChatGPT will be radically changing the way we learn anytime soon.

While using AI technology as a tool to support your studies can have its merits, there's also nothing wrong with keeping it old school. Sometimes the most effective way to improve your understanding of a concept or topic is to just do the hard yards yourself. Also, if you've made it this far into your academic journey, don't sell yourself short—we're sure that your critical thinking and essay writing skills can trump a chatbot's computed response anyday.

# Long Live the \$5 Vegan Lunch

Conscious Eats is a win for our health, environment, and bank accounts



NANCY GUO

The vegan \$5 lunch gazebo's line of smiley volunteers, who eagerly scoop steaming curry into the outstretched tupperware of hungry students, is an iconic landmark on campus. For many alumni, the fragrant and hearty lunches are also a fond core memory of their university days.

However, back in May last year, we noticed that on some weekdays, the usually bustling Barracks Lawn, where the vegan lunch gazebo often occupied, was eerily vacant.

A quick social media stalk confirmed our suspicions that something was up. On The Sustainability Network's Facebook, the club had announced that they had been requested by the University to reduce their operating schedule. After seeing the post, *Craccum* was determined to flex our investigative muscles and dig further—a testament of our dedication not so much to producing quality journalism, but rather to protecting the elite combo that is tomato chickpea curry and crispy poppadoms.

After chatting with Kalindi Fletcher, the president of Veda Club, the other organisation behind the vegan lunch initiative, we published an article titled "Where's my \$5 Vegan Lunch?" The news piece showcased the clubs' perspectives on the rollback of their initiative by the University, an effort to "alleviate pressure on other campus food vendors".

In the following issue, we published another news piece detailing the University's official response. In a nutshell, the University said that their request for vegan lunches to be served only two days per week was because student club activities needed to be balanced with consideration for other

food outlets on campus. Concluding its response was the recommendation that students should visit Munchy Mart for its "wide range of food types at terrific prices," and Tart Bakery for plant-based options.



Let's just say that the University's statement didn't sit well with many students. Aside from the flurry of sad and angry reacts that flooded *Craccum's* Facebook, several students criticised the University's response and advice.

"I might be inclined to give the on-campus food outlets my money if they didn't require three times as much for any reasonable amount of food. **Shit is EXPENSIVE,**" commented one student.

Another student felt that the rollback of the vegan lunches was unethical as they perceived that the University was "intentionally limiting available food options that are healthier and accommodate different dietary requirements."

"The food options around campus are terrible—the food is too pricey and is usually high in fat, salt, and sugar, and honestly looks gross. These cheaper vegan meals can help incentivise people to eat healthier, and it seems like people seem to prefer these meals over

the other food options. So thanks UoA. It seems like you're prioritising the profits of small businesses over the health and well-being of students."

Fortunately, there is a happy and wholesome ending to this vegan lunch saga: the official opening of Conscious Eats, a fully-vegan, permanent food kiosk on campus, brought to you by the same team that served up the familiar meals we all know and love.

While the crew behind the vegan lunches had been hoping to open their own permanent store on campus for some years, Kalindi said that *Craccum's* article gave the club a huge push in supporting making their dream a reality.

"We received a huge response from students, both in-person and all over social media, especially on UoA: Meaningful Confessions. The University's retail team actually saw the responses from students and reached out to talk with us. Long story short, the catering team behind the lunches have banded together and opened Conscious Eats."

Located in the Quad, the kiosk is open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 5 pm, serving up vegan food that is nutritious, tasty, environmentally-friendly, and suitable for student budgets.

"That's the reasoning for our name 'Conscious Eats'. We are conscious of what we're putting into our bodies, conscious of our impact on the Earth and conscious of student affordability," explained Kalindi.

During the first week of Conscious Eats' opening, the kiosk has been met with an "impressive" response from students.

Conscious Eats chef, KG, said that they



had initially anticipated and prepared to cater for 100 people. However, on the first day that classes resumed, he estimates that his team cooked for over 200 people.

"Students seem to have responded very positively to what we have on offer."

Staying true to the spirit of the original vegan lunches, KG is committed to providing students with a pocket-friendly meal package—complete with fresh vegetables, proteins, tasters, and a dessert. Having previously cooked for The Yoga Loft for a number of years as a hobby, he is passionate about making people happy with food.

"The centre of my life is about simple and healthy living, and giving that to other people as much as possible."

With the craziness of Conscious Eats' opening, he said that there were times students may have had to wait for their meal as the team worked hard to quickly replenish their offerings.

"Everything we offer is cooked fresh. It is an extra endeavour from us, but we're happy to do that because we want students to get the best."

Looking ahead, KG hopes to expand Conscious Eats' offerings for students, while still taking things nice and slow as "we just want to get the basics right."

"It's a work in progress for us. But we're all excited and passionate about giving the best to students and helping them realise that there is an alternative."

Although Conscious Eats is no longer a club activity, the kiosk remains a non-profit organisation that is formed from the community, for the community. Kalindi said that any leftover profits the food kiosk makes will be used to support and sponsor The Sustainability Network's club events, giving right back to the student community.

"We also just want to send a huge thank you to all the students that have supported us over the years. Conscious Eats wouldn't be here without you all!"





# It's the End of the World... Again!

Dealing with yet another state of emergency



RAWAN SAADI

We experienced a flood, cyclone and an earthquake, all in the last few weeks. To say it has been a hectic time is to wildly understate the amount of chaos that has been unleashed upon us lately.

We've all seen the different ways people have been affected by the flooding, from the heartbreaking losses of family members, to those that had to evacuate their homes for several weeks. Of course, many of us were very lucky to escape Gabrielle's rage, experiencing

minor inconveniences like periodic power cuts, or a damaged garden.

In either case, both the floods and the cyclone presented a rather interesting look into how we all react to states of emergency. Everyone had different





preparation tactics and coping mechanisms. There was certainly a wide range of reactions, from flat out panic in public, to mockery and jokes on digital platforms. However, there were also types of behaviour that most of us would have exhibited before, during, or after the floods and the cyclone.

One behaviour that was strikingly obvious and unanimous in the days leading up to the cyclone was the panic shopping. The Saturday night before Gabrielle hit was especially chaotic. It was inevitable that every Countdown, New World, and Pak n Save you went to would have a small army of people either searching frantically for their essentials, or lined up across the self-checkout machines. Not to mention the dozens of shelves that had been left with few items, if any.

It goes without saying that this would have triggered our Covid-19 nostalgia. The last-minute frantic shopping and anxious energy in the supermarkets didn't feel foreign. After speaking to a staff member at a Countdown in East Auckland, it's apparent that people's behaviour during states of emergencies tend to follow a specific rhythm.

He said that after working through the pandemic and the recent cyclone, he noticed that when catastrophe ensues, people cling to objects and survival kits, instead of appreciating the people they love, or the blessings they have. In a way, this is everyone's method of gaining control over situations that were so clearly out of control.

The Countdown staff member then went on to joke and say that if aliens were to discover our planet after these natural disasters wipe us out, they would find a lot of toilet paper rolls and egg cartons, which are always the first products to disappear when disaster hits—there is only guessing what they will think of us. He then said that this panic was followed by three or four days of eerie silence at supermarkets, before things quickly went back to normal. Using panic shopping as a coping mechanism is reflective of the way our fear often accumulates and lashes out in one go, until we quickly realise this is not a way to live and begin adapting in a calmer manner.

Of course, as anxious as people were and as serious as conditions became, it didn't stop the hundreds of memes and reels being made to mock this state of emergency. Almost all of us would have encountered at least one or two TikToks showing people swimming, diving, or kayaking through the flooded streets, with a caption that read something along the lines of "Kiwis during the flood..."

And let's not forget the many memes on pages like @kiwis.relate, that posted

**...if aliens were to discover our planet after these natural disasters wipe us out, they would find a lot of toilet paper rolls and egg cartons, which are always the first products to disappear when disaster hits—there is only guessing what they will think of us.**

new content to match any new cyclone or government update, such as the changes in alert levels or the movement of the cyclone across the North Island. Going through the comment sections, it seemed that people were using the platform as a way of venting out their anxiety. One person commented on a @kiwis.relate post saying: "We're just waiting for Lake Taupo to erupt now." Another wrote: "I'm currently watching the river level next to my house rise as I type this." It's quite clear that these jokes being sent around online were not made to undermine the situation, but to give people a breather from the more frightening images of the weather emergency on the news.

This is not to say that these online platforms always generated the healthiest of discussions or content. For the most part, they provided a space for New Zealanders to let out their frustration in the many states of emergencies we have endured over the last few years.

The contrast between the anxiety driven panic we saw at supermarkets, and the light-hearted content on social media isn't as different as it seems. Both the panic shopping and sarcastic media content are reactions to the uncertainty of nature, whether this be a natural disaster or a disease.

The hyper-preparation and panic buying has been people's initial instinct reaction as it is their way of springing into action for the sake of their personal survival. As hectic and extreme as it can get, it is human nature to panic during what we feel could be a life threatening situation. On the other hand, the satire is done not so much for the sake of survival but to create a sense of community in order for people to feel less alone. Of course, there are always negatives to social media activity, but overall it gives people a platform to discuss what is happening around them, as well as approach natural disasters more light-heartedly and not negatively fixate on the problem.

The last three or four years, and the recent flooding in particular, have shown us that when it comes to coping with natural forces, we often resort to a heightened level of fear. Although a certain level of fear and anxiety is completely justified, preemptively resorting to taking extreme precautions may not be the healthiest way to go about dealing with any kind of emergency. Panic-buying, for example, has resulted in people buying far more than they need and leaving very little for those who might actually be in need. That is why having a long term plan rather than a last minute scramble for supplies, is more beneficial for your safety as well as the safety of others.

It might be better for us to use this time not so much as a reason to panic buy all the eggs and toilet rolls in the supermarket, but as a reason to remember what it is we appreciate in our lives. This could be anything from family and friends, to our education and freedom. These aspects of our lives should be the elements we remember, try to protect, or resort to for comfort during any kind of disaster.













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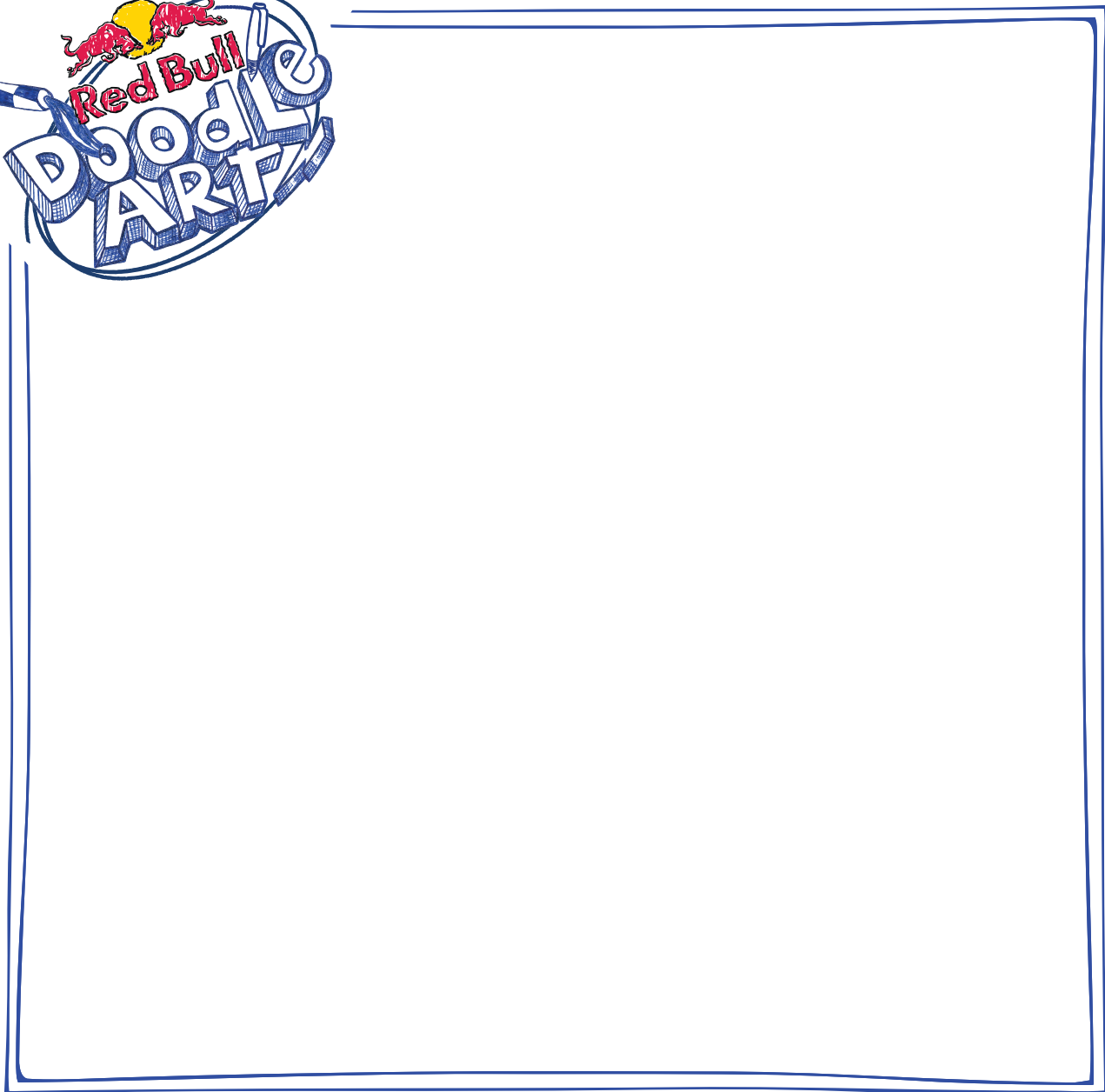
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# The Plight of the Manic Pixie Dream Girl

An exploration of the iconic trope and its connection to modern dating



PARIS BLANCHFIELD

The manic pixie dream girl trope is a concept sitting at the intersection of art and personal identity. We know her from titles such as *500 Days of Summer*, *Scott Pilgrim vs the World*, *Her* and *Ruby Sparks* as the vivacious, endlessly eccentric catalyst for the

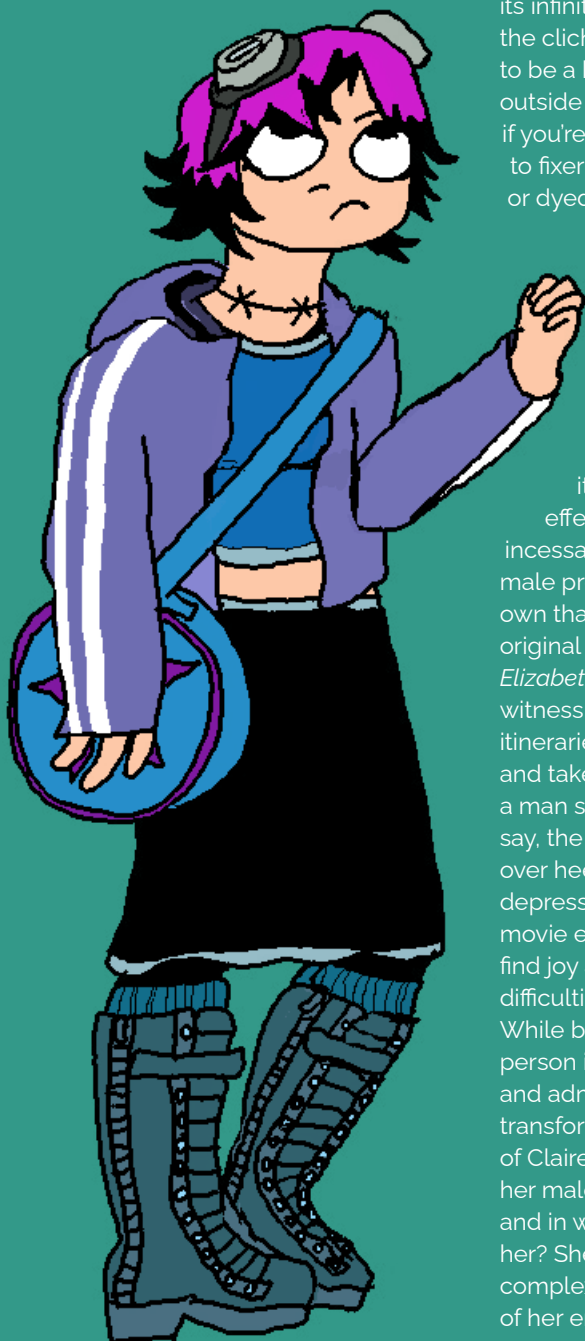
male protagonist's newfound sense of purpose. She's beautiful, she's quirky and she's completely one-dimensional. Coined by Nathan Rabin in 2007 and described as existing "solely in the fevered imaginations of sensitive writer-directors to teach broodingly soulful young men to embrace life and its infinite mysteries and adventures," the clichéd characterization has proven to be a broadly applicable term, even outside the realm of media. Simply put, if you're artsy by nature, quirky, drawn to fixer uppers or simply have a fringe or dyed hair, you're likely to have heard this term being applied to you.

Claire Colburn, played by Kirsten Dunst in the 2005 film  *Elizabethtown*, is generally understood to be the original manic pixie dream girl. In fact, it was her overwhelmingly effervescent disposition and incessant willingness to put the male protagonist's needs before her own that inspired Nathan Rabin's original definition. Over the course of *Elizabethtown*'s 119-minute run time, we witness Claire put together two travel itineraries, cancel a tropical vacation, and take on the role of therapist for a man she had just met. Needless to say, the male protagonist falls head over heels for her, his severe bout of depression miraculously lifts and the movie ends with him learning how to find joy amidst the complexities and difficulties of the human experience. While being able to 'fix' another person in this way can seem romantic and admirable in nature, the male transformation happens at the cost of Claire's sense of self. What does her male co-star provide her with and in which ways does he support her? She lacks desires, ambitions and complexities that should exist outside of her entanglement; and should she

**Simply put, if you're artsy by nature, quirky, drawn to fixer uppers or simply have a fringe or dyed hair, you're likely to have heard this term being applied to you.**

possess them on some deeper, veiled level, the male protagonist expresses no desire whatsoever to uncover them. This fate is what I classify as the plight of the manic pixie dream girl. A partnership spent dedicated to the role of sounding board; someone existing solely to enliven the life of their significant other, someone whose own identity is entirely entangled with that of another.

This repression of a female lead's three-dimensionality is something that is carried through in any and all representations of the manic pixie dream girl. Take, for instance, the film *500 Days of Summer*. While I don't necessarily believe that Summer's character fits neatly into the characterisation of MPDG, Tom's impression of her certainly does. Upon their first meeting, when the duo discover their mutual affinity for The Smiths, Tom develops a fixation on Summer based purely on who he wants her to be, rather than who she really is. Tom remains naively oblivious to her own problems, complexities and ideals over the course of the film, yet when Summer remains unsurprisingly steadfast in her preference to avoid labelling their relationship, it is taken as a personal affront. Think of the scene





in which we're shown a split screen comparison of Tom's expectations for Summer's dinner party and the reality at hand. It does a great job of illuminating the deluded nature of Tom's desires and expectation for the relationship to blossom into something romantic. When the party fails to live up to this, he leaves with a victim complex and a perspective that deems Summer the 'big bad.' This nuanced form of martyrdom is common amongst men who want to avoid taking responsibility for their own misinterpretations of their relationships with women, even in real life settings. Thus we see the representation of the 'friendzoned' mentality and the idea that 'nice guys finish last,' when this is rarely a fair characterization of any dynamic.

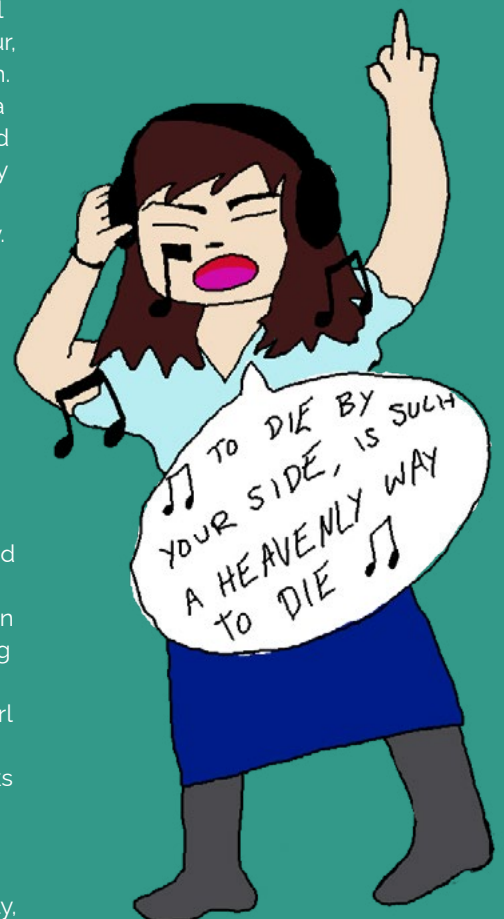
During my first watch, I understood this dynamic as an astute commentary on the male gaze; something that draws attention to the issues associated with falling in love with the idea of a person, rather than the person themselves. I'd like to think that this is the general takeaway, that no one could blame Summer for Tom's romantic delusions, yet when I discussed the film with an ex-boyfriend, he revealed that it wasn't until his third re-watch that he began seeing Summer as anything but the villain. This mentality, in which a man's infatuation with the idea of a person somehow constitutes entitlement to that ideal, is something that spills over into reality. I spent the first lockdown with a man who criticised me for watching reality television, saying that he thought I was the type to sit around writing, reading novels and watching old films while he worked from home, not the type to keep up with love island. I hadn't measured up to his 'manic pixie' expectations and was essentially given the choice to adapt or move on. The plight of the manic pixie dream girl pertains not only to a loss of self but to the inevitable loss of the romantic partner when the MPDG fails to live up to her classification. Similar to the 'cool girl' effect explained in David Fincher's *Gone Girl*, it creates a level of expectation that men cling to, yearn for and expect. When this expectation of their significant other doesn't line up with reality, they simply move on.

We see this idea of the manic pixie dream girl being disposable or even

intrinsically temporary in nature being carried across many other depictions of the trope. Think of Cleo's representation in Coco Mellor's 2022 novel *Cleopatra and Frankenstein*. While her character proves much deeper and more complex than the female leads we've referenced so far, and the novel itself proves a far cry from a manic pixie dream girl flick, Cleo's tumultuous relationship with Frank demonstrates the way that these surface-level relationships require complete relinquishment of the MPDG's three-dimensionality. Presenting as a young and strikingly beautiful artist, Cleo has no trouble securing Frank's attention and it's only when she lets her carefree facade slip that Frank's head begins to turn. It's a case of the male protagonist adoring her charming eccentricities and spontaneous disposition, yet shying away from any further character complexities that require reciprocated emotional support. Essentially, the way in which characters belonging to the manic pixie dream girl classification initiate each of their relationships with a sense of spontaneity and unwavering commitment to their significant other's happiness sets out a level of expectation. Their initial vibrancy is so overwhelming that their partners see little reason to expect an eventual falter, meaning that when it does occur, they often just jump ship and move on. In this way, MPDGs are often seen as a stepping stone or a way for dissatisfied men to find purpose in their lives. They aren't seen as a permanent fixture but rather a pit stop on the way to stability.

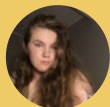
Conversations pertaining to the manic pixie dream girl now seem to be undercut with a question of relevance. Many iconic MPDG films were released in the early 2000s-2010s, begging the question: is this trope still something worth considering? It's feasible that my own interest in the subject may be informed by personal experience (my dating history has mostly included what Rabin described as 'broodingly soulful young men') and I've therefore experienced the reality of the manic pixie dream girl treatment firsthand. Because of this, I can confidently say that the drawbacks ring true in real-life relationships too. While usage of the reductive trope has resulted in a fair few half-baked female characters and consequentially,

directors have begun actively avoiding it altogether, I think the manic pixie dream girl still acts as a poignant reminder of how we *shouldn't* view women. I've seen plenty of instances where women, myself included, have previously sought to align themselves with the classification of manic pixie dream girl. On the surface, it seems romantic and idealistic; proof that the desire to 'fix' a romantic partner can come to fruition. Yet, with our growing understanding of the trope comes the ability to reflect on the ways in which it pertains to our treatment of others and the treatment we accept for ourselves. I've been compared to a MPDG more times than I care to count and it still makes my skin crawl. The term reeks of expectations, of unreasonably idealistic dating practices and of the inevitable frustration that comes from the inability to measure up. It also illuminates the way in which men still hold on to the idea of a perfectly eccentric woman existing solely to fix their problems. In my experience, this trope still proves valuable in revealing one key truth; that the nature of the manic pixie dream girl presents similarly across both media and reality-based applications—it looks a lot better from a distance.



# They're Here, They're Queer, and They Read Hot Girl Books

Inside SameSame But Different LGBTQIA+ Writers and Readers Festival



ABBY IRWIN-JONES

It's Saturday night. 11pm. I'm pleasantly buzzed off of Basement Theatre's finest IPA. Drag legend Hugo Grrrl is dressed as a kinky circus-ringleader unicorn, complete with a bejewelled, phallic-tastic horn crowning his glittering head. I just experienced the Poet Laureate of the nation strip down to his mesh underthings in a Madonna-inspired spoken word performance piece (back-up dancers included).

How did I get here you ask?

SameSame But Different is a literary festival with the kaupapa of celebrating queer writers and stories. Created by the late Peter Wells and now run by a volunteer board of passionate creatives, the festival has run in the last week of Pride Month since 2016. SameSame rejects the mould of stuffy literary events—housed in the sun-bathed upper floor of the Ellen Melville Centre, its sessions were intimate, accessible, and invigorating for a keen audience of young word-lovers. I tagged along as the friendly-neighbourhood-festival-bookseller to watch the SameSame community come together this year in sparkling fashion.

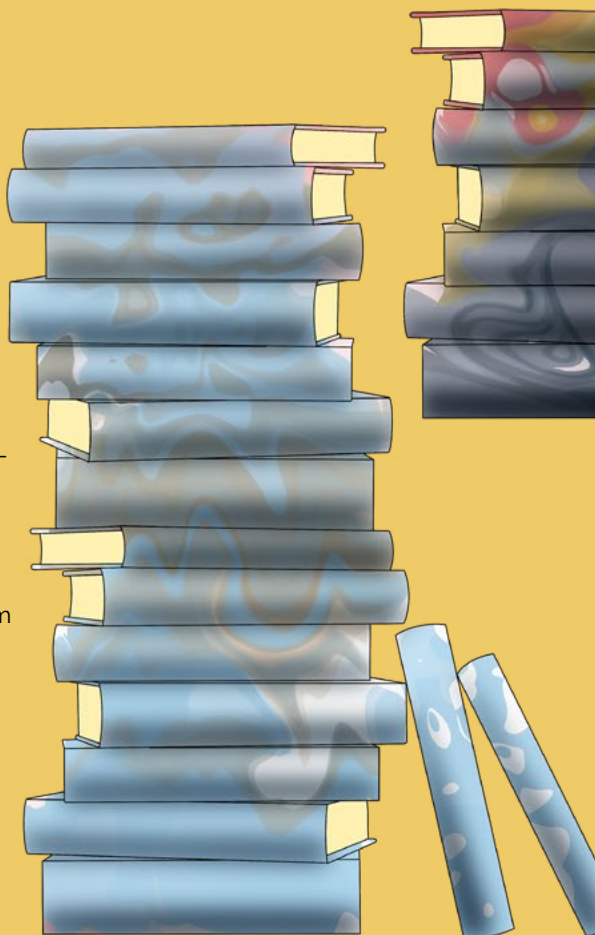
## Opening Night Gala

The fest kicked off with the winners of the Peter Wells Short Fiction Contest being announced, with I.S. Belle taking the top spot with her equally visceral and tender romance "*Minotaur Reading*"—about a beast who falls in love with the boy that comes to kill him, and who also happens to be an avid reader of Hairy Maclary. The comp was an incredible showcase of new talent in Aotearoa, and made me deeply regret scrubbing my Ao3 account from the internet when I entered my cool and mysterious 'it girl' era.

Moving swiftly along, the night turned to its main event: Speaking The Unspoken, which asked five writers to reflect on the words they'd wished they'd said. The artists uncovered the queer histories of Aotearoa that have sat buried in archives, came out to their loved ones over and over until it felt right, and shared genre-bending fiction on partners running out of words and love for one another. *Meat Lovers* author Rebecca Hawkes' spoke on the parallels between the liberation movements of the LGBTQIA+ community and sex workers, from her own unshared experiences in the industry. Amongst the revelatory was the hilarious—performer Ray Shipley gifted a hybrid poetry/stand-up comedy set about the sermon they wish they had given when they left the Anglican Church. The line-up was perfectly picked, diverse in their delivery but harmonious in their longing for conversations that never came into existence.

## Tuākana/Teina

The audience was a sea of notebooks on laps for this session for aspiring creatives. The panel consisted of educators and writers Gina Cole, Josiah Morgan, and Laura Vincent musing on the tuākana/teina relationship in writing and publishing—their own tuākana that guided them, how to support those that will come after them, and how the notions of 'emerging' and 'established' writers are basically arbitrary. What I took from this discussion was that you could be on your deathbed surrounded by a sea of Ockham awards and still think of yourself as an "emerging writer". All three resoundingly said that the tuākana/teina relationship is ever-changing, and that intergenerational exchange of mentorship is essential





to keeping the (r)evolution of queer literature alive.

The panel de-railed from its course in the best of ways. The topic turned to speculative fiction as an area where the authors find comfort, from Cole's pioneering work in *Pasifikafuturism* to Morgan's obsession with Stephen King ("he's straight and yet he only writes

male characters who hate women and are obsessed with their penises..."). They are impassioned about turning sci-fi, fantasy, and horror on their heads, reclaiming the marginalised Other in these genres as an empowered figure rather than a vilified one.

### The Peter Wells Lecture: essa may ranapiri

As one of the biggest names of the whole shebang, and a hugely celebrated poet across the motu, essa may ranapiri would likely be forgiven for some narcissism. But instead, the provocateur turned a solitary hour at a lecture podium into a celebration of takatāpui Māori across Aotearoa. They drew from the figure of Hinemoana, braiding the intersections of science and pūrākau to reflect on the festival's theme of QUEEREVOLUTION: challenge and change, empowerment and inspiration. ranapiri followed the threads of evolution that lead to the creation of our oceans and how Hinemoana is the manifestation of them, to pose that the moana, and by extension its atua wahine, acts as connective tissue for queer Māori writers. They performed a stunning collection by a range of poets on their relationships to Hinemoana to illustrate her varied roles in Te Ao Māori, and the strength of the inspiration she provides to takatāpui writers:

"Blood wouldn't move without liquid—it all draws us to Hinemoana. This conversation was created in the absence of contemporary tales about Hinemoana, it can do a lot of good to create new pūrākau about her for our descendants, so queer Māori in the future know that we were here, and unapologetically so."

### Show Ponies

As the week drew to a close, we came down to Basement Theatre for arguably the most anticipated event of the whole affair. With two back-to-back sold out shows (someone give these poets a break and a raise) it was even more packed than usual, theatregoers spilled down the stairs and out into a rare and mockingly sunny evening. You know when the premise of a show is "*what if poetry had a production*

**What I took from this discussion was that you could be on your deathbed surrounded by a sea of Ockham awards and still think of yourself as an "emerging writer".**

*budget?*" Tāmaki will turn out. Dutifully, I did as I always do when visiting Basement—turned my Tinder radius down as low as possible and loitered artsy-ily in the corner. But before I could catch my big femcel break, the show was on.

The theatre looked like someone bullshit their way through a Creative NZ funding application to cover up for the fact they just really wanted to buy a confetti cannon—and the glitz and glamour only continued. The order of the poets was comically juxtaposed Emma Barnes and their backup poets' angelic three way harmonies were followed in quick succession by Freya Daly Sadgrove's punk rock slam poem complete with a live drummer and strobe lights. Ruby Solly's heavenly taonga pūoro segued seamlessly into Rebecca Hawkes' piece from the perspective of an incel; a sensory delight of fedoras, Lynx Africa, and red lightsabers being twirled around gaming chairs by backup dancers like a routine from "*Magic Mike*". Of course, the aforementioned Chris Tse is blazing through his Laureateship with pizazz, and I will be beginning a campaign for his tearaway tracksuit to be housed in Te Papa. essa may ranapiri and Ruby Solly returned to bring the night and festival to a gentle, lilting end. The poems and music floated through the theatre, welcoming the rest of the poets back for the curtain call. To see them all side by side showed how SameSame But Different acted as a medium for these creatives and ideas to pass through, refracting them into a proud kaleidoscope of colour.

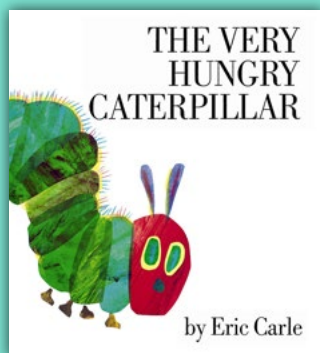
YOU CAN WATCH THE FESTIVAL LIVE STREAM NOW ON THE SAMESAME BUT DIFFERENT FACEBOOK PAGE.

# Rotten Tomatoes for Books

Tag yourself as a popular childhood picture book - for your very own personalised book recommendation!



AMANDA JOSHUA

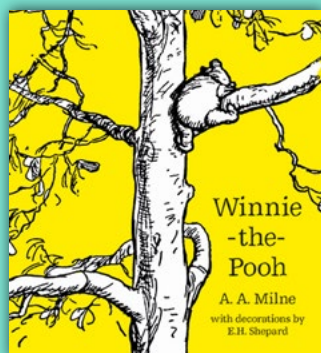


## The Very Hungry Caterpillar

- addictive personality
- you read gone girl religiously at least once every year
- accidentally stalk too hard on ig and end up on your ex's sister's boyfriend's cousin's page
- falls down random wikipedia rabbit holes on the quest for knowledge

### quote you relate to from

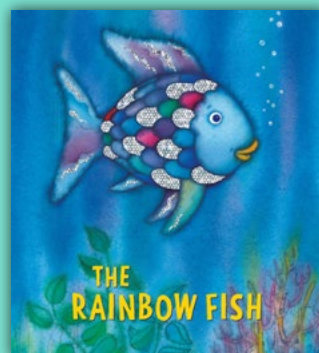
**the book:** "On Saturday, he ate chocolate cake, ice-cream, pickles, swiss cheese, salami, cherry pie, one sausage, one lollipop, one cupcake and one slice of watermelon, but he was still hungry"



## Winnie-the-Pooh

- are things going better since the ADHD diagnosis champ?
- big group of friends; adored by all
- big tee, small pant combo
- sweet as honey; you don't finish any books because you hate endings

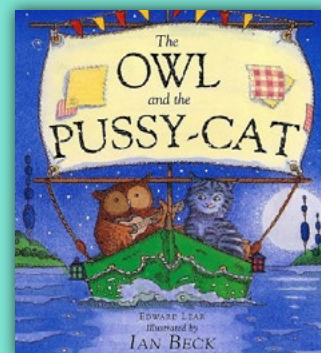
**quote:** "people say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day"



## The Rainbow Fish

- mom friend
- you can't put your finger on why exactly, but 'The Giving Tree' by Shel Silverstein makes you cry
- needs to work on setting boundaries
- you are in the closet but the closet is made of GLASS

**quote:** "the more he gave away, the more delighted he became"



## The Owl and the Pussycat

- Oh, so you're gay now?
- twisted sense of humour but people find you delightful
- highkey a simp
- Austen's Pride and Prejudice is the altar at which you worship

**quote:** "O lovely pussy, O pussy my love, what a beautiful pussy you are!" (you're telling me they let children read this smut??)





## If you got 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar':

I recommend you peruse Chelsea G. Summer's, *'A Certain Hunger'*. The narrator is funny and snarky and she delves into sex, food and the way gender is defined, all the while asking that pesky, age-old question: "why can't women be serial killers too??" #representationmatters. For all you voracious little caterpillars: the language used here is absolutely delicious. She be using words like piquant (pleasantly sharp taste) and halcyon (past period of time that was idyllically happy) for you to add to your vocab library. The novel will feed your appetite for knowledge without being overly wordy or obnoxious. You can tell the main character is an asshole *ala* Joe from 'You' but she's so well-spoken and sexy in the rationalisation of her wrongs that you let yourself be gaslit. Summer also describes food in a way that leaves you craving anything and everything her foodie main character consumes; whether it's a simple red meat burger...to the flesh of the last man who wronged her!!

Some spoiler free quotes you might like to sink your teeth into:

*"Men brought us the golden hits of war, genocide, rape, drones and football, so brutal women catch us by surprise. But our unshakeable belief in women as starry-eyed Margaret Keane paintings about the eternal sunshine of the spotless female mind? It is a wondrous, idiotic and drooling thing."*

*"Love makes us do the wacky; it also makes us do the whacking."*

## If you got 'Winnie-the-Pooh':

*'I've been meaning to tell you.'* by David Chariandy is a short novel for my short attention span girlies <3 Like A.A Milne, Chariandy writes in the same loving tone of a father hoping to make the world a little easier to navigate for his child. Thus, this partial autobiography might help soothe those daddy issues for you! It's a deep dive into race and its intricacies written by a Black-Indian-Canadian English professor for his daughter, knowing that she will experience life in America differently

to her white peers. Race often makes for emotional and difficult (though essential) reading material but framed as it is through the Romeo&Juliet-esque love story between his parents, and the funny and softly devastating scenes of a family, the novel is easy to speed through and will stay with you forever.

Quotes:

*"My girl, you did not create the inequalities and injustices of this world. You are not solely or uniquely responsible for fixing them. If there is anything to learn from the story of our ancestry, it is that you should respect and protect yourself; that you should demand not only justice but joy; that you should see the vulnerability, the creativity and the enduring beauty of others."*

*"But we're both dessert people so we shared a big piece of chocolate cake. 'It's very good for you,' you giggled. 'Chocolate cake is very, very good for you.'"*

## If you got 'The Rainbow Fish':

I suggest Oscar Wilde's short story 'The Happy Prince'. Not because you can't tackle the longer shit, I just know you have 500 other things on that to-do list of yours. The angst has been strong in you since childhood so fuck it—why not embrace it? Without any spoilers (although it's been out for 135 years) the themes include compassion, honour, love and sacrifice and I'm guessing those are morals you already hold close to your heart. After refusing to call the love between him and his boyfriend 'perverse' in his trial, Wilde was imprisoned. From his cell, he wrote, "God made the world just as much for me as for anyone else. Terrible as what the world did to me, what I did to myself was far more terrible still." May this short story remind you to prioritise yourself occasionally, and honourable as it is, not to serve others to your own detriment. Set some boundaries chief!!

Quotes:

*"Any place you love is the world to you."*

*"'It is strange,' the bird said. 'It is very cold, but I feel quite warm.'"*

*'That is because you have done a good thing,' said the prince."*

## If you got 'The Owl & the Pussycat':

firstly congratulations on your superior tastes!! Why don't you add to your ungodly rizz by giving some of Mary Oliver's poetry a geez? Studies have proven that beezies love them some verses and you never know when you might be in need of a new tinder pickup line. *'Devotions'* is simple, to-the-point poetry that makes the point of not being wanky or pretentious. It is easy to understand and easy to love. Oliver's pieces hit home and are full of important messages on 'how to do life'. Wary as I am of sounding like a little bitch, her poems make me feel lucky to be alive. But I'll let the quotes speak for themselves.

Quotes:

*"If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate. Give in to it. There are plenty of lives and whole towns destroyed or about to be. We are not wise, and not very often kind. Still, life has some possibility left. Perhaps this is its way of fighting back, something better than all the riches or power in the world. It could be anything, but very likely you notice it in the instant when love begins. Anyway, that's often the case. Anyway, whatever it is, don't be afraid of its plenty. Joy is not made to be a crumb."*

*"You do not have to be good. You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert repenting. You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves. Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine. Meanwhile the world goes on. Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air, are heading home again. Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting - over and over announcing your place in the family of things."*

# What's On In Auckland

Those course readings can wait one more night, go have some fun!



PARIS BLANCHFIELD AND ABBY IRWIN-JONES

## Auckland Arts Festival, Various Locations

Auckland Arts Festival is returning to us on the 9th of March with a packed, and electrifying, programme. Featuring music, theatre, dance, visual art and more, its diverse offerings promise to keep our schedules filled with plenty of alluring and artsy events. To see the full schedule (and begin planning out your next month) head over to their website or pick up one of their booklets. May we suggest Tusiata Avia's latest poetry/theatre show, *The Savage Coloniser*? It's been causing a stir on Twitter, which is usually how you know it's going to be a good one.

## Exhibition: *Light From Tate 1700s to Now*, Auckland Art Gallery

With pieces selected from the collections of Tate, Auckland Art Gallery has launched a dazzling new exhibition exploring the connection between light and art. The exhibition features over 100 artworks across various mediums and will be showcasing work by the likes of JMW Turner, John Constable and Claude Monet. This unmissable, star-studded installation will be open to the public from the 1st of March so make sure to grab your tickets (and put aside a fair amount of time, you won't want to rush this).

## Music: *Cross St Music Festival*, Cross St Tāmaki Makaurau

Your favourite block party is back for another year! The festival brings the K Rd nightlife back one street for an epic night of music, fashion, and food on Saturday 11 March. Think Castle St, but fewer bogans and more Carharrrts. Think Laneway, but in an actual lane. Featuring MazbouQ, Paul The Kid, Proteins of Magic, and Jujulipps, it's sure to be a funky and fresh night. There's cheap student tickets still available, as well as an afterparty up at Neck of the Woods.

## Alliance Française's *The Month of La Francophonie*

Break out the limited phrases you learned in your first-year French paper for The Month of La Francophonie. With a variety of artsy events including art exhibitions, movie screenings and writer Q&As, you'll have plenty of opportunities to immerse yourself in the beauty of French culture. To survey all of the enchanting events on offer, just head over to the Alliance Française website.

## Play: *Actor//Android*, Basement Theatre

A new solo show from theatremaker Louise Jiang (*Scenes From A Yellow Peril*) presented by SquareSums&Co. It tackles the industrialisation and rise of consumerism in the arts industry

through the story of an AI named Seven, designed to replace the need for human talent in the performing arts. "If you've ever been burned out from working beyond your human limits, then this show is for you." *Actor//Android* will debut at Basement Theatre from 7-11 March, and there are currently discounted tickets available for people under 25 via the Basement website.

## Screening: *Millennium Actress*, Academy Cinemas

Drop into Academy Cinemas on Saturday the 11th for a screening of the retro anime classic *Millennium Actress*. The film's enthralling visuals and complex yet touching manner of storytelling are guaranteed to appeal to anime buffs and novices alike. And if you want to expand your cinematic education even further, grab a ticket to one, or all, of their ongoing \$5 Wednesdays.

## Screening, *10 Things I Hate About You*, Silo Cinema

Silo Park is treating us to a (free!) nostalgic viewing of the cult-classic *10 Things I Hate About You* on Friday the 10th. Head down from 5pm to grab some food and drinks from the stands before the movie kicks off at 8:30pm, and settle in to watch Heath Ledger's iconic performance of 'I Love You Baby.'





# Stan Your Hall / House of Hay

## The Truth about the New Hall of Residence



OLIVER COCKER

Blessed at dawn on January 23, and officially opened on February 8, Carlaw Park Stanley is the latest development in the realisation of the University's plan for student accommodation. Housing over 900 students, beyond their first year, in three to six-bedroom apartments, it more than doubles the capacity of the Carlaw Park Student Village to just over 1600.

It boasts being the ideal haunch for any sunlight-sensitives among the population, as its double-layered design creates an interior courtyard, with the flats at the very lowest points receiving sun only when it is at its peak. Contained in that courtyard is a volleyball court that is often used for any sport but volleyball, table tennis tables that echo into every room if the window is open, and some picnic tables, which again, may never see the sun in some seasons.

On the inside, it possesses the most serious security of any hall, with no less than 3 glass doors between any would-be intruder and the main reception, staffed by a not-quite 24-hour team of receptionists, whose main purpose in life is to let people in when they lock themselves out of their room. Because make no mistake, every door you can use can be opened from your single ID card, of which you are only allowed one, so

if you forget it behind one door, you have to pay a mandatory donation of 25 dollars to the University. There is a case to be made that this is unethical, as was brought to attention by a resident, and it is UoA, so this will be investigated further.

For all your entertainment needs, on the inside, there are no less than two separate pool tables. Carefully situated next to the vending machines in what would suggest to any keen eye a kind of product placement, they are on the mandatory six-degree incline of any accommodation pool table. Situated just down the hallway is a music room, possessing an electric drum set and electric piano, neither of which was able to get worked for a joke, which provides its own kind of irony.

Each of the nine floors contains about 24 flats, and they are colour-coded up the building, to create a wonderful social structure based on colour, which the University loves to inflict on all its

residences. There are lifts in opposite corners and convenient emergency staircases, accessible at all times, for those in this world who buy into the functional exercise trend. And the soundproofing in each flat is so phenomenal that conversations can be heard audibly as one walks past. It is certainly an aromatic experience walking down the corridor at 6:30pm as dinners are being cooked.

Individual flats are generously furnished with bedrooms having the standard: desk, bed, wardrobe, heater, and towel rail. While common spaces have two couches, two awkwardly small and yet different tables, a television, AC for which the management had to send the manual, and a large window, where the real entertainment is watched. By UoA standards, the kitchen is generous, with excess storage, a large fridge, microwave and oven, as well as a few provided kitchen items. One random student interviewed wanted to praise the "fancy toaster" which is provided.

Located under 10 minutes from the general library, you are paying a premium of 330 dollars a week for that ease as well as all provided amenities (Water, Power, and Internet included).



# Free Therapy I Am Distraught To Discover...Works?

Six ways to feel just a wee bit better immediately



RUBY ESTHER

I'm not fixed. I'm not entirely rid of the sick feeling in my stomach, nor the dark cloud that uncomfortably inhabits my mind on its own whim. I am coping. I regret to inform myself, and now you the reader, that I am coping. Mostly as a result of advice from poorly written BuzzFeed articles, fatphobic fitness influencers who have never once shed a tear, and my own mother.

There is no one more distraught than I, that these oversaid and overfed cliches have become not only helpful, but a dependent for me. Although a case could be made for my teary eyed bank account that forks out \$130 a week for professional therapy. With that in mind, I see no reason to bleed you just as dry as I am. Professional therapy is an investment and unfortunately a privilege. Medicine can be much the same, and neither are for everyone. However, I am. My credentials are extensive (very mentally ill), my experience is endless (for a very long time).

**However, there is a chance that the not-quite-sadness feeling, or the quickening of your heartbeat, or the unceaseable panic you're currently feeling, is a little bit of dehydration. Your body's a bitch who doesn't know how to ask for what it wants. It might just be some water.**

so let me share with you the most helpful of the unhelpful advice I have been given. Free of charge (open to koha).

## Number One: Have A Glass of Water

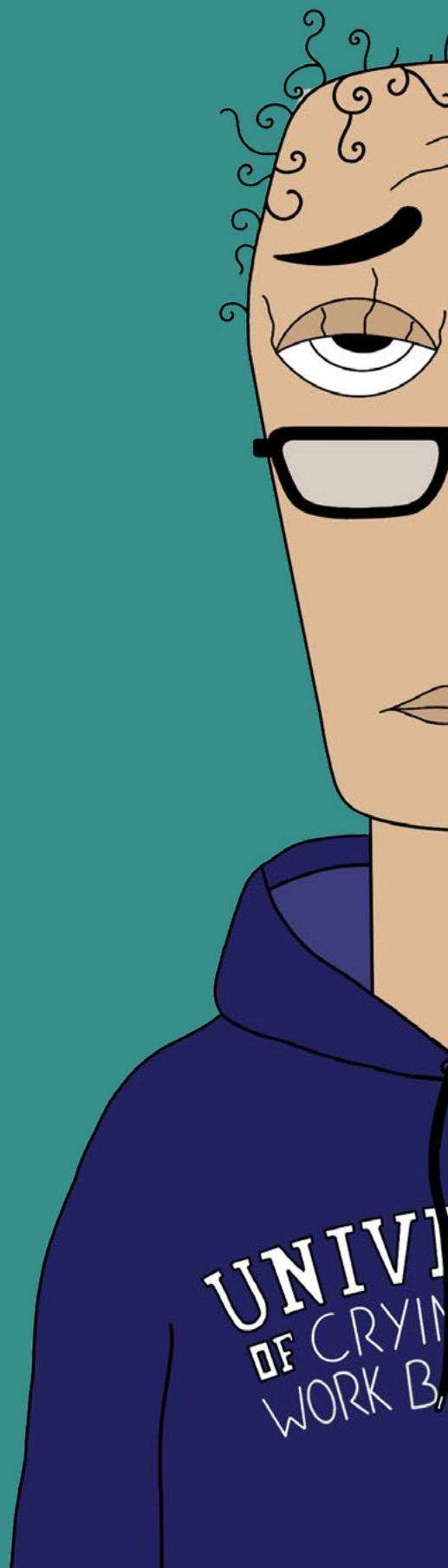
Please keep reading. No, it's not going to gouge open your serotonin receptors, and invite rainbows, puppies, and an on-demand shirtless Pedro Pascal into your brain. Your poor mental health is not about to evaporate into a distant memory. However, there is a chance that the not-quite-sadness feeling, or the quickening of your heartbeat, or the unceaseable panic you're currently feeling, is a little bit of dehydration. Your body's a bitch who doesn't know how to ask for what it wants. It might just be some water.

## Number Two: Weighted Blanket

Most of the time, my targeted ads do not do their homework. I don't know how many more times I can tell the algorithm I do not want an Oodie (I particularly don't want that butt ugly corgi patterned one.) I did however, cave on the weighted blanket. It doesn't make sense that the feeling of being crushed within an inch of your life calms you down. So I don't question it. I just fold it over to double the weight, or ask my boyfriend to lie on top of me if it is not at hand. I'd take a punch in the face if you promised to do it with a sledgehammer.

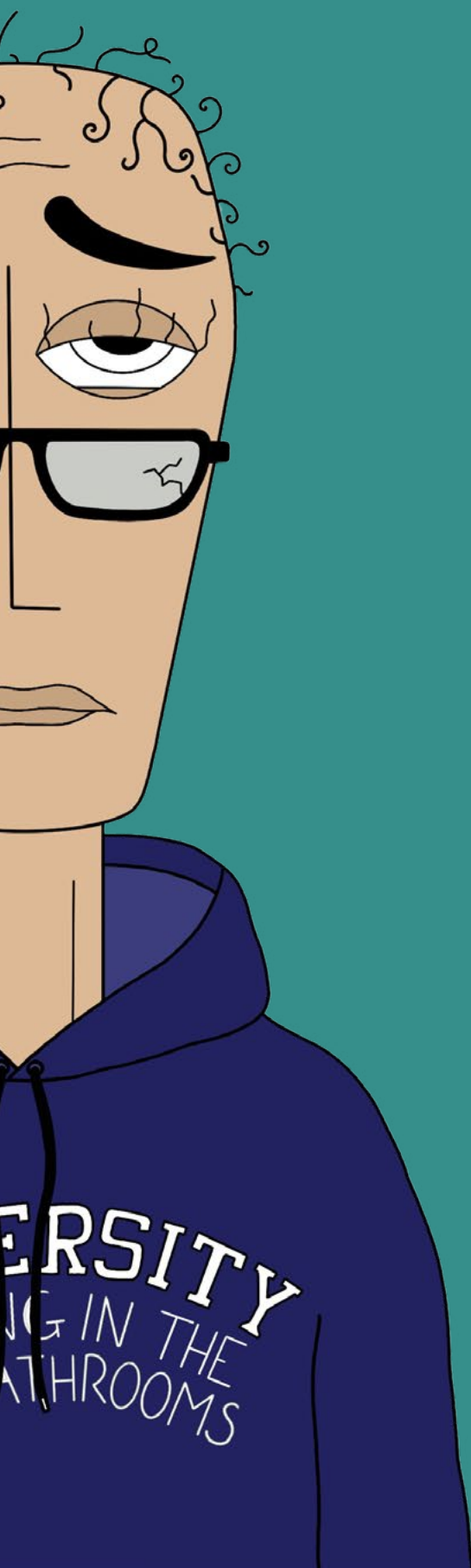
## Number Three: Go For a God Damn Walk

This is the first time I've admitted this works. I won't tell my mother she was right. I won't tell my well-intentioned best friend that she was onto something.





My little walks will always be my dirty little secret. The ex I keep going back to. The thing I would rather hide by confessing to killing a man, than telling you the truth. In hindsight, it might not work because the fact that it works makes my little walks...angry little walks.



I don't advise this one if your poor mental health is rooted in anger issues, but I do advise it if you'd like to swap your depression and anxiety for rage.

### Number Four: Do Any Form of Exercise

I believe the science behind the 'little walk' is that it helps the brain release and pump happy hormones whilst suppressing the crappy hormones. Unfortunately, due to this science, that does mean that any physical exercise will do the job. I detested having this suggested to me by people who have not felt the same as me. I know going to the gym will make me feel better, but can you take a wild guess at why I can't get myself to the gym to feel better, Cross-fit Cathy? Again unfortunately, once I did get myself to the gym during a particularly manic episode, I found myself sighing deeply in resentment that those people had been right, but also in relief. I am not saying go to the gym. I am saying if you can get there you deserve a prize and that prize will come. If you can't get there, maybe that little little walk is enough. That little walk could be down your hallway or to your bedside table, and you'd still deserve a prize.

### Number Five: Dance Like Nobody's Watching

Maybe a person didn't say this one to me, maybe it was the decor in my aunty's house as I come from a long line of white people. I can't dance (also related to the white people thing.) I turn on my favourite Spotify playlist that I have uniquely and originally customised with a picture of that lo-fi Jake The Dog, and I try to dance. I look ridiculous, I look uncoordinated, I look silly. But I also get to feel silly, which I really really really like. Because it's a feeling. You can also level this one up by playing a solo game of musical statues.

### Number Six: Breathe

If you've ever received the four government funded counselling sessions after Youthline came to your school, or met someone who was born and bred online, you have probably been told to solve your mental health issues by breathing. You have also

**So I don't question it. I just fold it over to double the weight, or ask my boyfriend to lie on top of me if it is not at hand. I'd take a punch in the face if you promised to do it with a sledgehammer.**

probably felt at the time that breathing was the one thing you were managing to keep on top of until they criticised you for it. I'm not going to recommend the 'in for four out for eight' or even the 'in the nose out the mouth.' I will, however, suggest your way of breathing being something you focus on for five minutes. I'm not good at this one, but practising it just a little every day has helped. It is also the one that makes me the angriest because I don't have that many jokes to make about it. This should be so much funnier, but it's just really effective.

Throughout my long-term relationship with my brain, I have always preferred receiving help or advice from someone I know has been through a similar long-term relationship. I hate all of these tips and tricks for coping. I hate people being right almost as much as I hate being wrong. But something I love and do not take for granted, is when I find something that helps me. It might be helpful once, it might be helpful and dependable as a coping mechanism forever. However, I have realised that whoever the help comes from, if it helps at all, it helps. You might not be ready or convinced in the slightest that it's time to start listening to those poorly written BuzzFeed articles, fatphobic fitness influencers who have never once shed a tear, or your mother. So for now I've done you the courtesy of skimming everything they have to offer, and redelivering it from the mouth of a mess. But if it helps at all, it helps. Turns out I might also be adding writing listicles to this listicle.





# Social Media Feeding Our Delusions

Social media - a wholesome space to embrace our inner selves or an endless void filled with manipulation that does us more harm than good?



SANSKRUTI BANERJEE

Be honest, like be fr - you probably light a candle and get some book like *The Alchemist* out at ten pm with the false facade of having a bedtime routine but what do you actually do? End up scrolling for hours through the depths of TikTok instead. It's fine, I'm sure we're all guilty in one way or another—but that makes us all victims of something I like to call social media manipulation.

Everything is honestly a delusion. How? Take a think into what you see. All of our TikTok For You pages are somehow magically accurate or in parallel with the lives we live; suspiciously spot on tarot card or horoscope readings, words of affirmation after you've gone through a breakup, that sarcastic duolingo bird commenting as soon as you decided to learn a language—its all planned I tell you. Instagram and Facebook too enjoy helping people feed into these delusions by portraying different groups or ideals they can be a part of: the "that" girl morning routine for a hot bod, celebrity gossip like the

ongoing feud between Selena Gomez, Hailey Bieber and Kylie Jenner or even MBTI types and how they act and live life. But why do we end up succumbing to this so-called 'manipulation?'

Maybe it's because secretly deep inside we all just want to belong somewhere. Cheesy I know, but I think it's a valid assumption. In some way or another we're all trying to fit in and find places, people and groups in which to call home. That tarot card reading makes you feel seen, that Instagram post about 'new year new you' makes you feel heard—so on and so forth. It's like an endless cycle of the media cleverly analysing exactly where these empty spaces are and us falling for this leads to the concept of feeding delusion. I mean, at the end of the day this exploitation of human feeling is probably just one more big money making scheme of capitalism or whatever. Think about the paid online aura readings, personality tests asking for email subscriptions—or even a premium membership, apps and more.

In this sense, if we consider social media experts scrutinising trends and then deliberating on content, social media really is one big scheme after all.

But hey, it's not all bad! I for one enjoy being on racoon and puppy TikTok, seeing multiple edits of All Too Well by Taylor Swift and every single ENFP MBTI post to exist. Social media can help us feel more secure in who we are—appreciating cultures, languages, music, art and more. It's a place where people can express themselves and find others a click away despite being miles apart to simply relate to. Again, we all want to find that sense of 'home.' There is a wholesome side after all.

But maybe next time you're scrolling through TikTok, remember there is apparently an end to the For You page...I hope you find it...or you know make a start on that impending Week three assignment that I know you will inevitably procrastinate on. Either works!

## The 95bFM Top 10 March 1, 2023



REVULVA  
THIS TOWN



with Annabel and Callum

March 1, 2023

1. Revulva - This Town
2. Grecco Romank - Celestial Poison
3. Office Dog - Big Air
4. A Blunt Jester - Eartha Kitt
5. Surf Friends - Something Real
6. Haz & Miloux - What U Do Feat. Diggy Dupé
7. Brandn Shiraz - Outside Outside Feat. Diggy Dupé
8. Jonathan Bree - Pre-Code Hollywood
9. Hybrid Rose - Planet Intercourse
10. Hone Be Good & Christoph El Truento - Doesn't Your Head Hurt

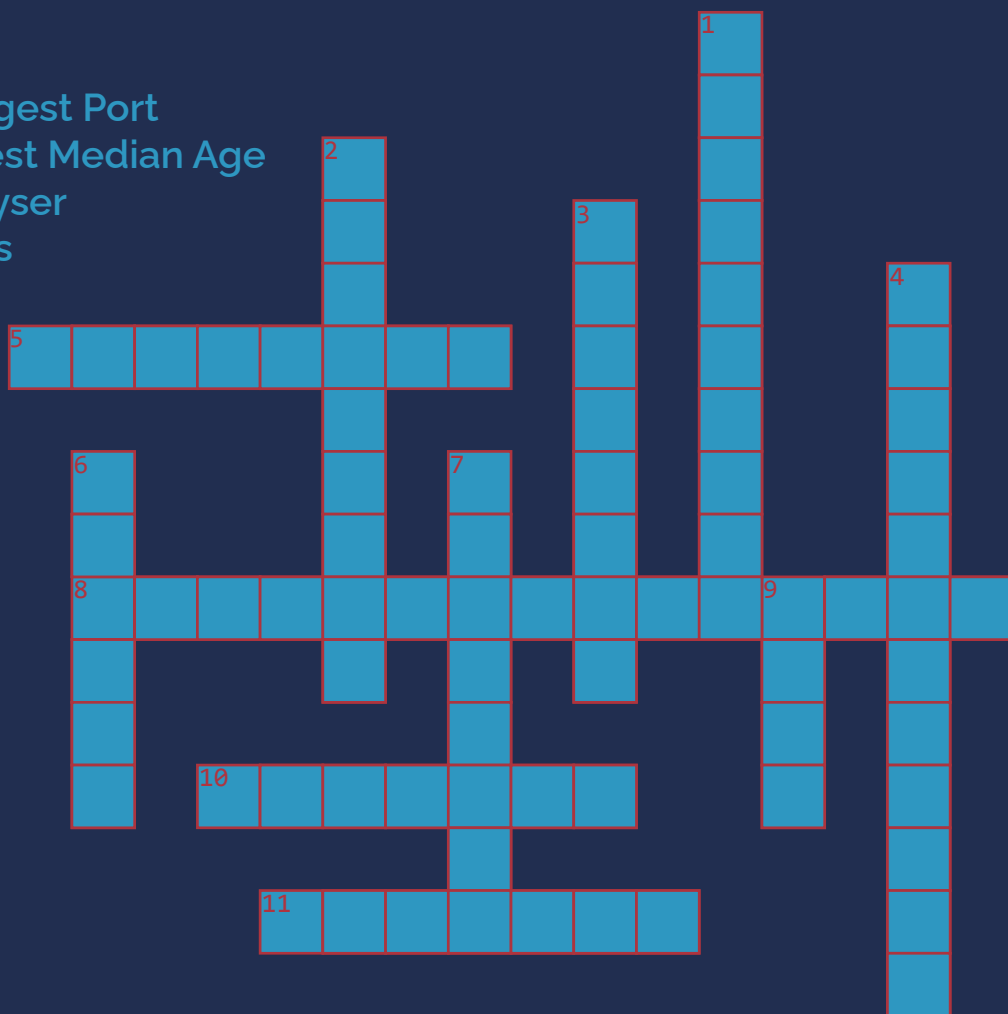
Text VOTE with your choice to 5395 or visit 95bFM.com/vote  
The 95bFM Top Ten with Annabel & Callum, Wednesday's from 7PM

Get involved with 95bFM today! 95.0 FM across all of Tamaki Makaurau  
Visit <https://95bfm.com/news/volunteer-at-95bfm>

# CRACCUM

## ACROSS

5. Location of NZ's Largest Port
8. City in NZ with Lowest Median Age
10. Home of Pohutu Geyser
11. Home of the Scarfies



## DOWN

1. Major Settlement on Rakiura/Stewart Island
2. Where Cook first landed in NZ
3. Alleged Chlamydia Capital of NZ
4. Second Largest City In NZ
6. That Art Deco Place
7. That Art Deco Place
9. Town on the Shores of Lake Wakatipu

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



# CONUNDRUMS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V

## Conundrum:

Each unique letter in the title of a famous NZ song is attached to a number. It is your goal to find out which one and fill in the letters. Some letters (F, J, Q, Z) do not appear.

ROYALS - 1 2 3 4 5 6

VICTORIA - 2 4 5 7 8 11 12

I GOT YOU - 5 6 8 12 13 15

DOMINION ROAD - 2 4 5 8 9 10 16

TAKE IT EASY - 3 4 6 8 12 19 21

APRIL SUN IN CUBA - 1 2 3 4 7 8 14 15 16 17

WEATHER WITH YOU - 2 4 5 6 8 12 14 18 19 20

SIX MONTHS IN A LEAKY BOAT - 1 3 4 5 6 8 10 12 16 17 19 20 21 22

## Wordsearch:

Hipkins  
Key  
Bolger  
Kirk  
Fraser  
Ardern  
Clark  
Lange  
Holyoake  
Savage  
English  
Shipley  
Muldoon  
Holland  
Seddon

P	X	O	E	G	A	V	A	S	V	K	A
G	T	E	L	K	A	X	X	N	B	R	E
U	Y	R	E	S	A	R	F	C	V	A	H
B	S	Y	A	D	V	H	D	K	C	L	O
D	O	E	M	M	P	S	M	E	T	C	L
S	O	L	D	I	K	I	U	Y	R	T	L
N	E	P	G	D	K	L	L	R	S	N	A
I	G	I	M	E	O	G	D	X	Y	Q	N
K	N	H	H	K	R	N	O	V	C	L	D
P	A	S	W	G	T	E	O	A	O	M	V
I	L	K	R	I	K	Z	N	Z	G	D	I
H	O	L	Y	O	A	K	E	E	Z	D	F

# HOW TOGETHER IS YOUR SHIT?

Answer this quiz to find out - be HONEST, we'll know if you aren't.

## QUESTION 1

**You have an assignment due in two weeks, what's the action plan?**

- A. There is none. Planning isn't my vibe. I'm more of a roll with it type of person. Submit at 12am with a 12am deadline.
- B. I would probably start the week it's due and submit on the day.
- C. I'd plan the week before, write and submit it a few days early.
- D. Stop procrastinating and submit it a week early because I've got other things to do.

## QUESTION 2

**What does your #selfcare routine look like?**

- A. Scrolling through TikTok, binging Netflix...what else?
- B. Aggressively journaling my thoughts like once every three weeks.
- C. Skincare—facemask, some jade rolling on the cheekbones and scented candles.
- D. GYM! My happy place—gets the stress out and a good workout in! Ideal right?

## QUESTION 3

**FOOD. We all love it, what do you eat on campus?**

- A. Munchy Mart is my life saver honestly.
- B. Needo or that Taco Truck is the only way to go.
- C. I'd rather walk down to Queen Street and grab a bite.
- D. I pack my own lunch—saves money.

## QUESTION 4

**Ideal study location on campus? (assume the over enthusiastic first years have lost hope and campus is more empty)**

- A. I don't really have one I prefer staying at home, why would I bother coming to campus?
- B. The new space in Kate Edgar with the microwaves and pool tables of course.
- C. Engineering building or OGGB.
- D. The library or silent space at Kate Edgar. People are so freaking noisy.

## QUESTION 5

**Fast forward to exam season (ugh), how's your life looking?**

- A. Literally don't talk to me. Live laugh love? More like die cry hate.
- B. Want to cry but like after some mental breakdowns I'll survive (barely).
- C. Stressed but okay—it'll be over soon so may as well grind now!
- D. I prefer exams over assignments so kinda thriving at the prospect of my grades resurrecting.

# RESULTS

**Mostly A's** - You let loose all the time...just like your grades. C's get degrees babes but let's stop procrastinating and scrolling on TikTok the night before an assignment is due, yeah?

**Mostly B's** - You're holding things together - but with a singular bobby pin. Kind of a slay but maybe try Notion or Google Calendar for some organisation...

**Mostly C's** - Pretty impressive - you've almost got your shit sorted! Though the occasional distraction or invitation to dinner gets the better of you (as it should).

**Mostly D's** - Okay scholar. We're jealous of you—you were probably the annoying teacher's pet in high school and probably sit in the front row of lectures. Take a break.



# HORROR-SCOPES

Oh, it's not halloween? The oracle doesn't care.  
Here's some uni horrors each astrological sign should be wary of this week.



**Aries:** Beware of all flat-cest!! Hooking up with someone on your floor in halls might seem hot, fun and main-character-esque right now: Location, location, location, right? But the lingering awkwardness and side-eye each time you set foot through the door ain't worth it! Download Hinge.



**Taurus:** That colour-coded wall calendar is looking good chief!! You went to all your classes and you started individual docs for notes on the readings?? The only eerie thing here is your lack of a social life. Ballers work hard, PLAY HARD. Add it to your reminders or whatever.



**Gemini:** Stop talking shit. Seriously, we just got back and nobody has time to sort out friend group drama before they've even sorted out their timetables. If you wanna stir the pot, try making a new kind of shitty student pasta tonight or something. Get it together.



**Cancer:** You know what terrifies me? Your wasted potential. If you can describe the plot points of Love Island in detail and deconstruct the Hailey vs. Selena drama on tiktok, you CAN ace that essay. Download that Forest study app and don't go on your phone till you've grown some trees bitch!!



**Leo:** Ayo the 30 year old you're talking to on Tinder is freaky (and not in a good way). If his prefrontal cortex hasn't developed by now, it never will. Stop letting your romantic tendencies blind you and run for the hills!! Block that mf.



**Virgo:** Your mommy issues have reached a peak this week. And while there's few things in this life as horrifying as the uni's resources for mental health, one of them would definitely be: you not taking care of yourself. Do some journaling, drink some tea. You know all that annoying advice (that kinda does work).



**Libra:** Honestly nothing is scarier than the blatant disregard you've shown your lectures this week. It's all sunshine and rainbows till exams come around, you have 53+ to catch up on, and no one but God and RedBull to save you.



**Scorpio:** Hey shawty, that diet is appalling!! A pie / mountain dew combo from Munchie Mart daily is hardly the epitome of health. Try to remember that you can't flex that impeccable brain of yours without feeding it three proper balanced (ish) meals a day.



**Sagittarius:** You know what's scary? The prices on the indie K-road clothes you keep insisting on thrifting. You wanna be thrifty: START BUDGETING. Do you know how expensive Ubiq makes the coursebooks??



**Capricorn:** Stop suppressing your personality to fit in with your new edgy uni friends. Show them the good and the bad; what's meant for you will never leave. As a wise woman (Nicki Minaj) once said, 'If you can't handle my worst, then you ain't getting my best.'



**Aquarius:** 'Rat bastard' is such a funny insult because it implies that not only are you a rat, you are a rat born out of rodent wedlock. Anyways, still not a fan of this star sign. Maybe it's time to hit pause on those Joe Rogan podcasts and your personality?



**Pisces:** Beware of the first week blues!! I know your heart longs for summer and those first few introductory courses have left you in dismay. Rotting in bed is an aesthetic for sure but you have too much to offer the world. Up and at 'em (even if it's in sweatpants).

# Wear Plants, Not Plastic

Meet The Plant Pacer

*allbirds*