

# CRACCUM

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 23 (one to go!)

SEPTEMBER 27, 1988

## THE HAWKE REPORT-



When the Government begins

preying on us,

It's time

to start

praying for ourselves!



\$200 REWARD



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Was Craccum a source of free expression for Auckland University students and the University community? Was Craccum the official publication of the Auckland University Student's Association or of the University of Auckland? Do both bodies endorse or agree with opinions expressed within Craccum, and can the Editors even recognise an opinion if they see one?

All this, and more, may, or may not be revealed next week? Or will it? Is this just another one of those trick questions like they have on those smart-arse science programmes where they give you heaps of very obvious clues so that you think you know the answer, and then they prove how completely ignorant you are by saying something else? Would I do that to you? Shit yes! After all you obviously think you're smarter than the average Craccum reader, don't you? I mean reading the disclaimer every week because it's so mind-bogglingly brilliant? The last think you expected was to be put down, am I right? Well that just goes to show you that even your average disclaimer can be a real bastard, sorry, B'stard.

# INDULGENCE

Would you believe that this is the second-to-last issue to go for this year! Can't say I'm not unhappy! (Whoops—the triple negative in that phrase, now that I analyse it, says the opposite to what I mean! And no, it's not a Freudian slip, OK?). I actually meant to say that I'll be glad to be free again—it was getting to that stage where I'd go home and wouldn't recognise my flatmates because of the long interval since we'd last passed each other in the hall.

The only thing I regret about this coming to an end is that we didn't manage to print all the stuff people gave us, and cover everything that we would have liked to, simply because we've been so tight for space all year. As you can see, this issue is again restricted to 12 pages in a cost-cutting measure—revenue from advertising, upon which we are largely dependent, has never really revived since the stockmarket crash.

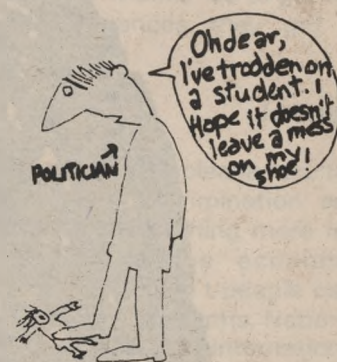
The feature article takes a look at 'professional students'—those who make a career out of university, and not an academic one. I was amazed to find there were one or two students who are still enrolled at varsity that first began before the majority of students here were even born.

Check out the student apathy article and quiz (if you can be bothered, that is). Even though there's a lot of outside circumstances in a student's life today that contribute to their disinterest in anything not relating to money and direct personal satisfaction, apathy is a dangerous thing (read the quote below). Especially now with the Hawke Report coming out and education being threatened—if we don't stand up for our rights we'll be trod all over.

Anyway, happy library-seat-hunting, submission-writing and end-of-year assignment-avoiding!

Miriam

The Eds: Miriam de Graaf, Simon Holroyd



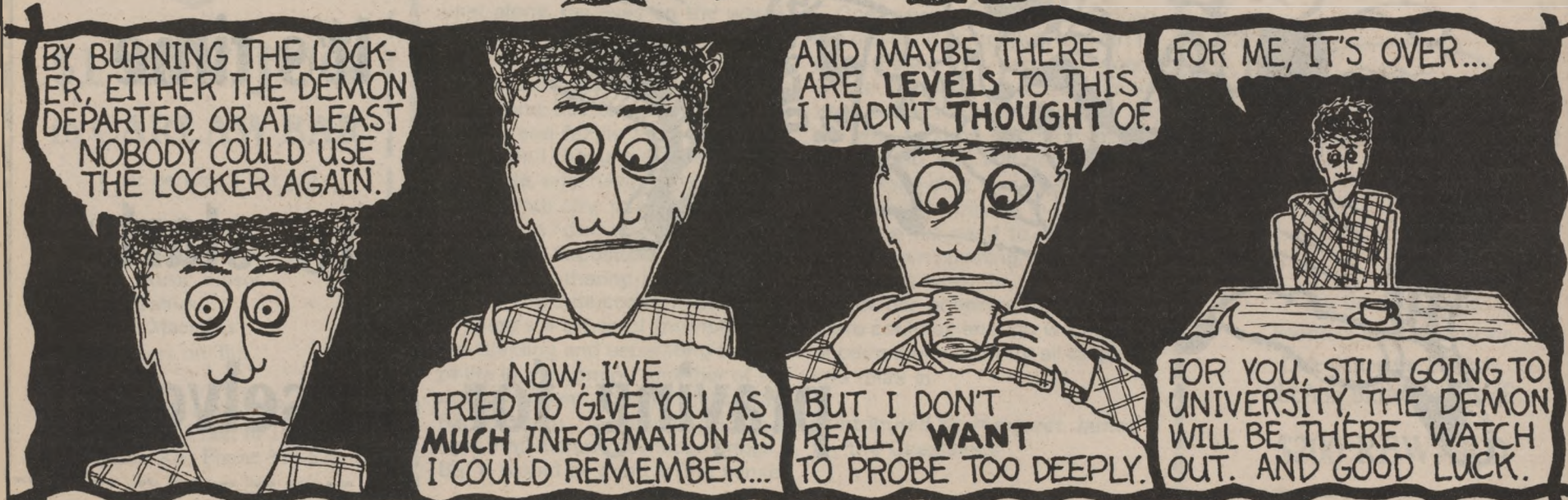
"First they came for the homosexuals but I was not a homosexual so I did nothing. Then they arrested the trade unionists, and I did nothing because I was not one. And then they came for the Jews and then the Catholics but I was neither a Jew nor a Catholic. I did nothing. At last they came and arrested me and there was no one left to do anything about it."

— Martin Niemoller.

PART 20: "IN THE END..."

## LOCKER 13

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# Life, the University and Everything



## HAWKE REPORT RELEASED!

If universities were given a dozen academics and a free lecture theatre for every review the government has subjected them to over the last four years, there probably wouldn't be any problems with limitation of entry. Starting in 1985 with a group of government officials, the universities have been investigated, audited and examined by seven different reviews. Three of these reviews invited public submissions. Hundreds of people replied and students' associations and academic groups wrote lengthy submissions. The result of all this paperwork was that in December last year, Geoffrey Palmer announced another committee had been set up to review the reviews. The report of this committee was out yesterday. (Monday 26th September 1988).

Chaired by Victoria economics professor Gary Hawke, the committee is quite clearly looking at more than just the results of the last four years' reviews. Hawke is rumoured to have been asked to join because the results of the last four years have been so indecisive. The officials from the various departments can't agree with each other and following in the precedent set by Brian Picot and Alan Gibbs, an influential outsider was brought in to sort out the problem. The committee has moved on its own initiatives. It is known they examined proposals for a form of graduate tax presented to the Australian government earlier this year. The committee's brief covers the whole area of post compulsory education and training. Potentially this could be one of the most influential of the many reports this government has commissioned.

**'We may see the first effects of the Hawke Committee when the Classics Departments all over the country start to close down as they already have done in Britain...'**

So what can students expect from the Hawke report due out yesterday? Secrecy has been tight about the contents of the report as the Government does not want a repeat of the fiasco

over the Picot report release. Opposition Education Spokesperson Lockwood Smith leaked parts of the report early and caused great concern amongst Education Department employees who feared their jobs were on the line. Despite the secrecy over Hawke there have been some indications about directions the report may take in recent speeches by Associate Minister of Education Phil Goff, and some fairly persistent rumours circulating the capital.

### GRADUATE TAX

Almost certain to be included in the committee's recommendations is some form of user pays. In speeches over the last four months to the New Zealand Planning Council, to NZUSA's May council, to the Teacher's College graduation, Phil Goff has begun and ended with the size of the country's debt. It is quite clear that one of the Government expectations of the Hawke Committee report is that funding the Tertiary sector will remain constant or decrease. In view of rising student demand, the extra money has to come from somewhere, and the most obvious targets are those who in government jargon are deriving 'private benefit' from our education system: the students.

**'Flavour of the month in the user pays camp is some form of graduate tax.'**

Flavour of the month in the user pays camp is some form of graduate Tax. In a speech to a Planning Council seminar Phil Goff praised the scheme recommended to the Australian government by the Wran committee. 'It has the merit of not adding pressures to students at a time when they are unable to meet them.' (*The Press* June 29). The Wran scheme is actually more correctly a form of tax debit scheme. University leavers pay a tax on a percentage of their course costs for every year they were at varsity. The tax is levied at a rate of about 2% of income once the individual is earning above the average national wage and until they have paid off all of their 'debt'.

### UGC CHOPPED?

As well as signalling the end of New Zealand's free public University system, the Hawke looks set to put an end to another old institution not performing up to scratch. The University Grants Committee was set up to advise the Government about the University system and to administer and distribute funding to the seven campuses. However after two years of receiving no funding for roll increases, there is a growing perception on campuses that the UGC is not performing well in its role as lobby group for the universities. The UGC was not even asked to provide representatives on the Hawke Committee despite its supposed advisory role. If that is any indication of the respect the government has for the contribution of the UGC then it may be a dead duck after this Monday.

### SEPARATION OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH

The other persistent rumour round campuses is that the Hawke Committee will in some way separate the funding of teaching and research. Exactly how this will be done where the same personnel are involved is not clear. This may also involve more control over the areas in which research is conducted.

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Overall the effect of the Hawke Committee recommendations may be to associate higher education more closely with employment. The committee's brief was to examine education and training in New Zealand but the distinction between the two seems to be increasingly blurred in government thinking. The human capital theory particularly prevalent in Treasury circles assumes people participating in the Education sector do so out of a desire to increase their value to an employer. There is no room in this thinking for the concept of pure research or a liberal arts education. We may see the first effects of the Hawke Committee when the Classics departments all over the country start to close down as they already have done in Britain where the more market theory of education has been around for some time.

C.M. Denny  
CANTA

## THE OTHER CALENDAR

Further to last week's introduction, this is the list of questions to be asked in the survey of 1st year papers for 'The Other Calendar'. Each of the questions is to be answered on the scale:

- 1 - terrible
- 2 - poor
- 3 - adequate
- 4 - good
- 5 - excellent

The options for question 11 are:  
All, 90%, 75%, 50%, or less.

- (1) How interesting did you find the course?
- (2) The quality of the teaching
- (3) How reasonable is the workload?
- (4) The usefulness of the labs/tutes/field-trips
- (5) The availability of texts, set readings and other teaching resources.
- (6) The usefulness of texts, set readings and other teaching resources.
- (7) How would you rate the assessment system as a measure of student performance?
- (8) How would you rate the assessment system as a part of your learning process?
- (9) The enthusiasm of the teaching staff for the subject.
- (10) The interest of the teaching staff in the students' academic progress.
- (11) How many lectures have you attended?

★★★★★

### ANDREW LITTLE TALKS BIG...

★★★★★

NZUSA president Andrew Little has come up from Wellington especially to talk in the quad today (Tuesday) at 1pm about the Hawke Report and the future of education.

## Taking Youth Support to Task

**The new Youth Support Package is the most fundamental change to students' financial support since 1975, when bursaries were first introduced. It's a complex scheme with many, as yet unresolved questions. NZUSA outlines plans to monitor its impact and asks for your help.**

The new Youth Support package will be a complex scheme; it's new and it's confusing. Any scheme in its first year of operation is bound to throw up glitches, but this scheme is complex by its nature.

Starting from an assumption that young people should be treated the same regardless of their circumstances (eg student, unemployed, Access trainee) Youth Support is an age-related scheme. If you are under 20 and don't fall into an 'independent' status category what you receive will be dependent on what your parents earn. There are two rates for under 20 year olds. One if you are 16 or 17 and one if you are 18 or 19. Both abate according to your parents' income. This is bound to add to the confusion when tertiary grants officials who also have to administer eligibility for the new accommodation and travel allowances.

At this point it's difficult to assess what the real impact of the scheme will be for students. We can however learn from the mistakes of our counterparts across the Tasman who have had essentially the same scheme with the

same objectives in operation for almost two years now.

In adopting the 'Austudy' scheme, their Government declared three objectives:

- i) to enhance consistency in the treatment of youth regardless of whether they are students, unemployed, Access trainees etc;
- ii) to enhance equity by targeting support to youth from financially disadvantaged circumstances and thereby;
- iii) to enhance access by encouraging young people to choose education and training.

What is glaringly obvious from the Australian experience (in convenient retrospect) is that no attempt has been made to establish whether the proof of the scheme's success was in the eating.

Since implementation, however, one critical problem has become apparent. A successive failure to adjust threshold abatement levels has resulted in decreasing numbers of students being eligible for Austudy. Presently around 40% of students receive support. As rates abate according to both a per-

sonal and parental (if you are under 24) income test, very few of that 40% will receive the maximum Austudy rate.

Already in New Zealand the maximum income thresholds before abatement are causing concern. For example if you are 16 or 17 your entitlement of \$80 per week abates by 25c for every dollar your parents earn over \$360 gross per week. That was the average wage in 1986/87 and before implementation two wage rounds will have occurred.

Surrounding these major concerns are other major problems. Who administers and determines eligibility for the scheme? What will be the impact of taxing students' bursary? What is the relationship of financial support to tuition fees? What is the impact of family size on ability of parents to assist their children's studies...?

Government Officials already believe adjustments to the scheme will be necessary for 1990. In these circumstances, students will need hard facts on the impact of the scheme in operation. Students and Students' Associations will then be in a position to argue for anomalies to be removed and to assess whether the scheme has met the objectives set for it.

The New Zealand University Students' Association is currently considering several proposals to monitor the Youth Support Package. Each proposal involves surveying a sample of



students several times over the 1989 academic year on income, expenditure, state of health, extent of part time work and academic performance. It will follow on from research on student income and expenditure conducted in 1987 which will provide the means to make comparisons between the Tertiary Assistance Grant system and the new Youth Support scheme.

If you are approached to participate, please consider it carefully. Students need this information to be able to change and adapt the new system of youth support. In the final analysis only by proving that the pudding was inedible will students be able to constructively change the system of financial support which is one of the fundamental measures which enable people to undertake education and training.

#### NOTE:

Should you require further information on eligibility for Youth Support, pamphlets are available from your Students' Association.

## UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE

University Challenge 1988 began in early June, three months before the first programme went to air, when posters went up around campus seeking applicants for the team to defend Auckland's 1987 title. After a month of elimination rounds four people remained: Peter Bateman, William Jennings, Steve Moratti and Louise Symons. The manager was Jennifer Geard, who was on Auckland's 1986 team.

Weeks of practices followed until on Monday 22nd August we left for Dunedin (all airfares and accommodation paid by TVNZ) where the four-day event was being held, and on arrival we checked into the University College hostel with the other teams.

After dinner there was a small social with TVNZ staff, who provided the alcohol (which was, for one of us, the precursor to a phenomenal hangover the following morning). After about half-an-hour, the ageless Peter Sinclair walked in, fashionably dressed and

fashionably late. He moved around the room doling out 30 seconds of his valuable time to each student, giving jocular insults like Elizabeth I to fawning favourites.

Tuesday was rehearsal day and we saw the studio for the first time - it was small, crammed with cables, cameras and lights, with room for an audience of forty. Our first game was against Massey on Wednesday. Perched on high stools and baking under hot lights, we were all nerves, cracking silly jokes with shaky voices, trying to stop hands trembling, trying to forget that three-quarters of a million people were waiting for us to make complete fools of ourselves on national prime-time TV.

Then the questions started and everything faded. The whole universe was just us and Peter Sinclair. Nothing else mattered, nothing else existed. The game lasted a few minutes, a hazy dream that will soon be an awful reality.

Thursday night, after all seven heats had been filmed, was the traditional

teams' night out, an event held further from the hostel each year. We went to a nouvelle cuisine restaurant that we heartily recommend you try for the funniest food you will ever see - until you are served a steak with a green ectoplasm of XLO cloth draped over it you will not appreciate the hilarity of a meal.

Thursday night also saw the winning of the prestigious Huey Long award by a manager who distinguished himself by distributing diced carrots about the streets of Dunedin from a car window.

The last day of the competition was the busiest - two semi-finals and the final were recorded, followed by a sponsor's function with the BNZ and the presentation of prizes. From this we were bussed to the airport and flew home to Auckland.

The small community that had flourished under shared pressure during an intense week had broken up, not forever, we hope, and already thoughts are turning to University Challenge 1989.

William Jennings

In a thinly-disguised measure of vanity it should be pointed out that a certain 'Gort' would have been selected for the team (again) had he not decided on alternative arrangements (again).



### Extremes Meet

At a time when there are about 2 million millionaires in the USA, and a millionaire's yacht race(?) has just been sailed, begging is hitting American streets in a big way.

Speaking of American cities, 'Time' magazine of 12.9.88 says that 'the streets of American cities have now become desperate crossroads. To walk any distance at all is to run a gauntlet of beggars of every imaginable description.' They are talking not of India or the Philippines, but of the world's richest country. Is there not something radically wrong with a socio-economic system in which an upperstratum lives in every conceivable luxury while a lower stratum is reduced to beggary?

There are, of course, a proportion of phonies. And

## SLINGS AND ARROWS

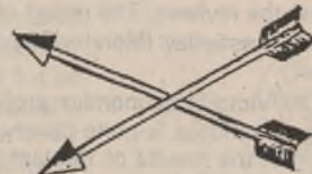
by Archer

just as the hard-faced rich of NZ sneer at the unemployed as 'dole bludgers', so their counterparts in the US denounce the beggars as druggies, albies, con artists etc. But the real problem of hardship is there, all the same.

In NZ, begging has long been illegal. But the signs are ominous. Accumulation of wealth at one pole is accompanied by accumulation of misery at the other. It may not be so long before the beggar is once again more common than the busker.

### Left, Right and Centre

So the Labour Party Conference has come and gone, and likewise Lange's 'cabinet reshuffle'. And after all the kerfuffle things are much the same as they were.



What happened to the great 'left-wing challenge?' It turned out to be a squib. The trouble is that many were under the impression that 'left' meant radical. No such thing. There was no 'left' in the real sense of the word. Only centre and right.

Lange made some concessions - but words are cheap. His retention of Roger Douglas as Finance Minister showed that what counted was the reassurance to 'business' that Rogernomics would continue. Thus the real concession made was to capital, not to labour (in the proper sense of the term).

After the Conference Lange and Co. declared that they occupied the 'middle ground' of NZ politics. But they are much more right than centre. The 'left' is actually the centre, and a real 'Labour left' is non-existent. It takes time for lessons to sink in.

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# BULLSHIT!



## \$ TREZ SEZ \$

Your student association executive met last Wednesday, and began hammering out where your fees should be spent next year. Here is the first pass. If you want to have some say, you could bring up any of this at the SRC this Wednesday, or come and see me in Room 105.

1988 BUDGET	1989 BUDGET
2000 Cultural Projects	2000
28000 Maidment Theatre Contribution	29680
13840 NZSAC Levies	14560
-520 Orientation	0
26264 Social Activities Officer	27840
3965 Capping Events	2500
-1500 Graduate Ball	-2500
30000 Accounts Service to Clubs	31800
2180 Disabled Students Trust	1365
25710 Engineers' Subsidy	37500
1500 Student Memorial Scholarship	100

2000 Speakers' Fund Contribution	1000
11000 Executive Portfolio Expenses	11000
-2300 BFM Access Radio	0
48632 Campus Radio Levy	48950
5000 Orientation Handbook	5000
5000 The Other Calendar	10000
1000 Child Care	2000
3000 Executive Projects	10000
3000 Elections and General Meetings	3000
70435 NZUSA Levies	74100
300 Quad Forums	300
1600 SRC Policy Action Fund	1600
700 School Visits	1000
400 Executive Entertainment	300
23298 Women Students Researcher	0
13578 Part-Time Employment Bureau	17000
-8000 Second Hand Bookstall	-4000
43251 NZUSU Levies	43550
24260 Disabled Students Resource Officer	25720
5116 Parent Resource Officer	5423
382701	392788

These figures are not yet finalised, but you can see there is a projected increase of \$10,000. This in-

crease is entirely due to the expected increase in the payment we will be required to make to the Engineering Society.

The following items await further discussion, so if you want to have your say, please the person on the right.

1988 Budget	Person Responsible
3000 Theatre Activities Donation	C.A.O.
65000 Societies Grants	S.O., M.O., Socs Rep
41300 Craccum	M.O.
6000 Publication Grants	S.O., M.O., Socs Rep
6000 Councils & Delegate Exps.	A.V.P.
700 Blues Dinner	S.O.
4000 Easter Tournament	S.O.
22000 Sports Grants	S.O., M.O., Socs Rep
2000 Winter Tournament	S.O.
9530 Job Crises Centre	W.O.
7500 University Creche	Ella Henry

167030

S.O. = Sports Officer, M.O. = Media Officer, Socs Rep = Societies Representative, W.O. = Welfare Officer, C.A.O. = Cultural Affairs Officer, A.V.P. = Administrative Vice President, Ella Henry can be contacted via the University Creche.

The final item that needs to be decided is how much below market rental should we charge the 65 tenants in AUSA properties. In 1988 rents were \$79,260 below market rental (i.e. \$1,219 per person).

## FOSTER'S SHOUT

Gidday

It's been a tiring past week; being an avid sports fan I've been doing zombie impressions in front of the tele.

This week the Hawke Report will be of most interest to us. By the time you read this the report will have been aired and we will hopefully have had a chance to respond. Andrew Little, our NZUSA President, will be in the quad on Tuesday discussing the ramifications. Come along and see how it affects you. It will also be your chance to have an input and we can work out a plan of action.

The Govt has also stated that it will not necessarily facilitate the recommendations in the Hawke report but that's bullshit. If they think they can get away with it they'll try it. We have to discourage them— we'll have one month to make submissions. I believe something more than that is necessary. Perhaps a picket on October 8th. I know it's a Saturday but rumour has it Hawke will be speaking on campus!

We'll be organising something. Anyway I'm off to watch more Olympics and my deadline's almost up.

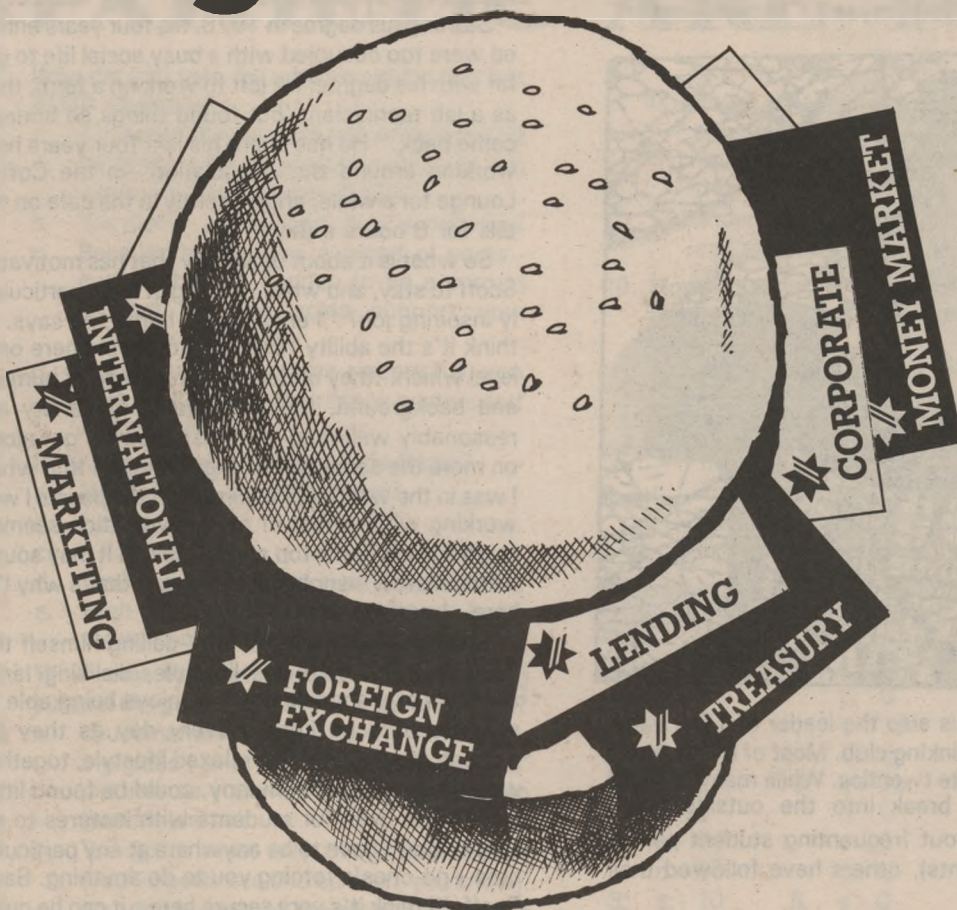
Raf  
AUSA President

## ANOTHER CHEMISTRY FIRE CALLOUT!

Last Friday lunchtime, just over two weeks since the major blaze that stalled the Chemistry block, the fire service was called out again. Apparently a small fire was caused by an experiment being dropped on the floor. While the fire was put out in only a number of minutes, the alarm was activated anyway. The whole Chemistry building and library were again evacuated, the third time this has happened in this building in about a month.

But if nothing else, these have made everyone very aware of fire safety procedures—this latest evacuation was very swift and organised.

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Registration for Interviews : October 10-14  
Secretary, Career Advisory Room 14  
Behind Upper Lecture Theatre  
Interviews : Thursday 17 November



# PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

There is a certain breed of students at university, who, once they enter our hallowed halls, are doomed never again to leave. Commonly known as 'professional students', these people seem unable to tear themselves away from the student lifestyle and face the outside world. What keeps them here? Craccum investigates.

Probably the best known of all professional students at Auckland University is its very own AUSA president, Richard Foster. This is his twelfth year at varsity. In this time, despite having attempted a total of 47 papers, he has not yet completed his BA, but is currently working on the last paper which he needs. Foster has, however, failed over a degree (i.e. 25 papers). Majoring in Ancient History, it is often claimed that he's studying his own life. So why does he prefer to spend his time here rather than in the 'real' world? Says Foster, "There's so many fuckwits out there, in the real world.. they're just so hard to comprehend—people are just so thick, I think that's mainly what it is. I can't handle thick people. And especially thick bureaucrats whose only answer to any problem is to say no first, and then to think about it." He finds the university lifestyle preferable but has really felt the impact of the change in students' attitudes—as he says, "It's got a bit boring now."

While he'd like this to be his last year, Foster wants to keep doing one or two papers just for sheer interest. "I might come back in future years and try a masters again..it's just that I got fucked over last year by becoming president. It's got to the stage now where I'm thinking, I'm nearly 30" [he now is 30] "and a lot of students that are my age now have got themselves mortgaged up to the eyeballs, married with a sprog and they're just loving life, I can tell, honest. And I think to myself, there's certainly no way I want to be like that. But then again, there are others as well, who are overseas with jobs having a great time, and I wouldn't mind joining them, at some stage."

"As I say, I love the life. To be quite honest the last twelve years of my life have been pretty bloody good. I've enjoyed myself, fucken oath."



Foster—as everyone best knows him.

Richard Foster is also the leader of TTN, varsity's (in)famous drinking club. Most of its members are now in their late twenties. While many of these have made the break into the outside world (though not without frequenting student parties and drinking events), others have followed their leader Foster.

One of these, who didn't wish to be identified, (we'll call him Mr X) has been around for about eight years and involved with AUSA for most of that time. In 1986 he finally finished the BA that took him about six years. Since then he has been half-hearted (if that even) attempting a BSC.

He says there's "nothing much out there in New Zealand to go out to", that there have been no 'real' jobs since the economic recession, and those that exist start on very low wages. For Mr X the working lifestyle isn't worth it—he's earning enough to live on, and the lazy lifestyle suits him. As well as that there's the people: "You meet more people than when you work... there's more dynamic, more interesting people around."

His view of the other lifestyle he could have led is bleak. "I've got heaps of friends from high school, most of them are divorced or separated with kiddies and mortgages and all the rest of it..or they're very unhappy in their job...it's pretty grim."

When asked if he's planning to return next year, he's doubtful. I think an important deciding factor for old TTN'ers is that Foster probably won't be



around much next year. So lately Mr X has been talking about getting a job in a government department...?

That cheery bearded man who adds up your lunch in the main cafeteria is indeed another of these professional students. Commonly known as Scoff (derived from his surname), he no longer actually studies here, but remains in the midst of student activity by working in the cafe.

Starting his degree in 1978, his four years enrolled were too occupied with a busy social life to get far with his degree. He left to work on a farm, then as a lab technician "but found things so boring I came back." He has spent his last four years here working around the Association—in the Coffee Lounge for a while, and currently in the cafe on the tills for 6 hours a day.

So what is it about university that has motivated Scoff to stay, and while working in a not particularly inspiring job? "I enjoy being here", he says. "I think it's the ability I can talk to people here on a level which...they understand my sense of humour and background. Most people at university are reasonably well-read—we just seem to get along on more the same wave-length. I found that when I was in the workforce a number of the people I was working with—most of my conversation seemed to go right over the top of their heads. It may sound a little narrow—snobbish even—but that's why I'm here—I prefer it here."

Scoff doesn't mind his job—calling himself the 'lazy type', it suits his lifestyle, disliking large amounts of responsibility. He enjoys being able to see everyone he knows every day as they go through the queues. The relaxed lifestyle, together with the intelligent company, could be found little place else. Even for students with lectures to go to, you don't have to be anywhere at any particular time—no-one's forcing you to do anything. Says Scoff, "I think it's very secure here...it can be quite a nasty shock changing to a working lifestyle—having to get up every morning and go to work. Although it's something I have to do for six hours each today, it's only six hours and it's not too early in the morning..."



Bob Lack—Has been enrolled here since 1968.

As for money, he is able to live on a part time wage as he has some rental income. Every so often though, the desire for more money arises. Though he keeps his eyes open on the Situations Vacant column, he sees little to interest him—however his future's "always up in the air."

But Scoff's span at varsity is nothing—not when you consider Bob Lack who first enrolled here 20 years ago in 1968. He estimates it took him two full-time years and 10 or 15 part-time years to get his degree in Philosophy, and he still enrolls in papers as they interest him or are relevant to his work. He too, was involved with the Students' Association for some time.

When questioned why he has stayed around, he answers, "Well, for a lot of that time the motivation was a vague desire to finish a degree just to prove to myself that I could. Why am I still enrolled? Well, it keeps you vaguely awake doesn't it?"

While he continues to do papers that interest him, academia is not that relevant to his remaining in contact. "Academic reasons?" he says, "Nah, not the slightest. Exciting social interchange, the intellectual stimulation, all that bullshit."

So what else does he like about this place then? Replies Bob, "What makes you think I like it? I think it's absolutely bloody appalling! All money-grubbing young accountants and things. Most unpleasant."

So why would he bother to waste so much of his time in the company of these sorts? "I suppose it's part of being English. You know, the English culture maintains that mortification is good for the soul. So one mortifies oneself by mixing with all these horrible money-grubbing accountants and things. Because that way you better understand the way the world works." But aren't there more 'horrible money-grubbing accountants' in the workforce with you? Yes, Bob agrees that there are too many out there too, "but they usually have a few corners knocked off them once we get them out here."

He feigns shock at hearing there is still a population of Arts students. Bob believes his degree is more useful in the real world than "these sorts of accountancy-type degrees they hand out of that place."



Kerry Hoole—has made the most of his 8 years at varsity.

Craccum's current advertising manager Kerry Hoole is now in his eighth year at varsity. In this time, he has been extensively involved in the Association, often to the detriment of his degree. "It wasn't a deliberate intent", he describes his continuation at varsity. He has been under exclusion since 1985, so could only do two papers per year. Having only six papers left, he felt an inclination to finish and has "continued to try and hack away and get it. But now it's actually a useless degree anyway..." Being the fast moving field of Computer Science, prospective employers, he says, "would laugh at me if I told them that it was started in 1981 and completed in 1990." His last few years here then have not been academically motivated. Each year Kerry has found something new to get involved in, another reason to return.

Unlike most of the others I talked to, Kerry didn't express negative views of the 'outside world', having spent 18 months working in an almost full-time job. "They make lots of money out there, they don't have to work as hard as we do," he says. And he doesn't immediately praise the student lifestyle:



"The food's terrible. I could really do with some money, I'd really love, like some money about now." But Kerry actually does appreciate a lot of things about the place: "There's very few situations where people can spend vast amounts of time being creative—not only being creative, but wasting time as well!" Looking back, he can justify the amount of time he's spent here. Starting to list the skills he's learnt, I warned him that this was only a C90 tape he was talking into...

These are just some of the professional students that still haunt our 'hallowed halls'. I found there were a number of tendencies that they had in common. Most are in some way or another, lazy. Lazy in that they like an easy lifestyle—getting up at

11am at the earliest, not having to be anywhere at any particular time, devoting lots of time to drinking and socialising. But they are rarely apathetic—as well as being up with the national and world situation, many are involved with the Students' Association and with various clubs and goings-on.

Professional students also tend to be male—I only heard a vague rumour of the existence of one female who'd been around for a while. If women do spend more than the usual 3 or 4 years here, it's usually for academic reasons i.e. they're doing their Masters, PhD etc.

Professional students also tend not to be materially ambitious—as long as they've got enough to live on with a few dollars left over to

spend at the pub. Most despise the typical kiwi lifestyle—the mortgage and 2.24 kids (or whatever the national average is).

The number of people who are able to survive as professional students is dwindling, and this year in particular, could be the last for many. A growing number are now bored with the apathy and conservatism of today's student population. The increasing restrictions, rocketing fees and the inability to live on a bursary is proving to be discouraging. There still exists however, and more acutely than ever, a major factor that has been keeping these professional students here—the lack of anything better in the 'real world'.

M.

This decade there has been a significant change in the attitudes and lifestyles of students. 1st, 2nd and many 3rd years today would have no idea of the 'real' student lifestyle—the days when students spent their time drinking, protesting and politicking, partying all through the week as well as the weekend, when crazy stunts weren't restricted to capping week, but were part of being a student.

The eighties, and the last few years in particular, have been characterised by a general apathy and growing conservatism. While this change has been present all through society, it is particularly noticeable at varsity. Despite this being the thriving place for the budding politicians, the thinkers, the creative people and the radicals, today few people make an impression.

The first major change came about as a result of internal assessment which was introduced in the late 1970's. While previously students could muck around all year and just cram the few weeks before exams, they now had to apply themselves all year. It's a bit ironic that while it was the students who were pushing for internal assessment, when it came in, it wasn't entirely to their benefit, meaning the end to their easy-going lifestyle.

The other, more subtle change, that occurred in about the mid-80's is students' extreme conscientiousness towards study, and their growing interest in money and things material.

Students' involvement in anything not directly related to their study, and not monetarily reward-

ed, in consequence decreased dramatically. Few of the really outrageous and fun clubs of a few years ago still survive in the same enthusiastic form. There are also fewer functions happening around varsity—less dances, silly activities in the quad, less Orientation involvement, etc.

I talked to a few long-time students about these changes. President Richard Foster, always so ready with anecdotes from the student days gone by, was full of nostalgia.

"Students can't afford to fail. I think that's the major importance—when I first came to varsity it didn't matter a damn. Beer was 50c a jug, it didn't matter whether you passed or failed, but that you lost your bursary—but it was so easy to get a job to pay that back cause it was so cheap to live. You could quite easily live off 30 bucks a week—rents were only about \$6-8, and you could live off \$5 food a week. The only expense I had in those days was beer, and I didn't really drink that much, actually." [!] "When people come to varsity, they work, and then they just leave, and try to get a job, and they're very career oriented because that's the way things are now. But it's not that important,

really. I mean you could spend five years at varsity, have a good time, it's just that it's so boring around here now—it really is, in comparison to what it used to be like. I mean, it's so difficult now to find people to go to the pub... I feel sorry for those who've never experienced or knew what the Kiwi was like. That is something."

"Nowadays money means so much, there's been a dramatic change since about 1984. There's been a complete turnaround and money has become very important. Students' concept of money is such now that money's everything."

Bob Lack, who's been around since 1968, also had a few things to say. "It pisses me off mightily to see the state of student politics and the like. But you know, they're individuals and if they want to spend their time learning how to be market researchers and worrying about their mortgages that's their problem."

Disillusioned by today's student politics, he says "At the risk of sounding like grandad, I do remember a time when most people who were involved in that were interested in what was good for society and that sort of thing... Then that was

followed by an era where they were doing it as a social service, some sort of public service because it would help them in their career, which meant they did it competently. Now I get the impression that a substantial proportion of them are out for what they can get personally rather than anything else."

There are plenty of reasons for this apathy—though not necessarily excuses. Students have to work hard because there's a lot of competition to get places in courses, and they can't afford to fail and lose their bursary. Simply surviving is a major concern—many are so busy working part-time that they don't have time for anything else. There is also a general feeling of insecurity, in comparison to the optimism of previous decades, which doesn't encourage people to stray from the security of their study.

While some just couldn't give a stuff about anything not directly related to their own little stratosphere, there's also a lot of students who don't want to be apathetic—they care, they'd like to get involved. But they couldn't do so without compromising their work too much, and especially in today's world it's fair to want to look after no 1 first.

But this is leading to a generation of students who haven't experienced the real student lifestyle, who've never done anything crazy or radical, stuck out their necks or made the most of the chances here. Because quite frankly varsity is one of the few places where you can get away with so much, (try the excuse "It's alright, I'm only a [poor] student") and get so many opportunities for free. Anyway, try our apathy quiz to see how you rate...

## STUDENT APATHY

## Craccum asks... JUST HOW APATHETIC ARE YOU?

- Why did you go to university?
  - Because you mistakenly thought there'd be a higher ratio of spunky and intelligent members of the opposite sex than in the outside world.
  - To expand your horizons etc.
  - To get a BCom so you could afford to live in an area away from all the riff-raff.
  - So you could screw the Pol. Studies Dept for every inside secret they've got.
  - Because all the other cool people from your 7th form went.
- If there's something in Craccum that you don't like or agree with, do you :
  - You don't bother reading Craccum in the first place.
  - Write a letter.
  - Write a 7 page comprehensively researched and investigated article in reply, and if Craccum won't let you have seven pages of their newspaper, set up your own paper and print it.
- To whom do you write most frequently?
  - Reagan and the superpowers, threatening action through your Mafia contacts if your demands for world peace are not met, (even if these means do contradict your aims).
  - Your lecturers, asking for extensions because you haven't got around to your essays yet because there's now three happy hours a week at Shadows.
  - Great Aunt Esmeralda in Eketahuna..
  - Craccum, telling them how wonderful they are this year.
  - The M.O.T., trying to get off your parking fines for double-parking on Princes St because you couldn't be bothered getting up early enough to get a legal park.
- How often do you vote in AUSA elections?
  - All the time.
  - Never, you can't spare the thirty-seven seconds it takes to vote, I mean, that's valuable drinking time.
  - You rarely get a chance, neither does anyone else after you've sabotaged the elections to stop all those right-wing candidates getting in.
  - When there's something worth voting for (which means never - see b.)

- Why did you vote for who you did in the last AUSA elections?
  - You voted for yourself (who happened to be running for all positions because you wanted to monopolise AUSA).
  - You didn't - it was happy hour, remember?
  - Because he/she was a friend of yours - even if they do happen to be a corrupt bastard. (You've gotta support your friends, ya know!)
  - You thought they were sincere (i.e. you were sucked in by their fancy posters and wild promises).
- How high can you lift your little finger?
  - Which one's my little finger?
  - I can't.
  - 17 feet.
  - Ow! Two inches and then it breaks.
  - High enough not to be caught out by international drinking rules.
- When was the last time you did something cultural like go and see a play or an art gallery?
  - You remember vaguely having had a passing glance at one of those street artists' pictures as you were stumbling down to the Occidental.
  - You go to most arty things that are on (you've gotta see and be seen, you know).
  - You direct most of the plays that are on - I mean what better way to infiltrate the audience with your hardened social and political views?
  - '86 Orientation when you walked through the maze.
- How well do you keep up with national and world affairs?
  - You always read 'Hartnell in Hollywood'. Oh - and talking of affairs, did you hear that Joan Collins is having a fling with Reagan's puppet from the 'Spitting Image' show?
  - You don't just read the news, you create it!
  - You read the paper every day, and watch the news when your flatmates aren't watching Sons and Daughters on the other side.
- How many clubs/organisations do you belong to?
  - You're in Amnesty International, the Native Forests Action Council and the Debating

- Society.
  - None, except perhaps the Shadows Appreciation Society if there was one.
  - You run all of (a), as well as the United Activists Association and about 14 underground action groups, which you can't name for legal reasons.
10. How would you react to being ripped off, e.g. by the garage that was supposed to fix your car?
- If after negotiations they refuse to set things right, you take them to Fair Go.
  - You drive what's left of your vehicle right through the front of their workshop.
  - You dismiss it, I mean, who ever expected life to be fair? It'd be too much hassle to sort things out anyway.

- Award yourself an extra 10 points if you could be bothered to get this far in the quiz.

- |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. a - 0  | 4. a - 6  | 7. a - 0  |
| b - 6     | b - 0     | b - 4     |
| c - 0     | c - 10    | c - 10    |
| d - 10    | d - 4     | d - 2     |
| e - 0     | 5. a - 10 | 8. a - 0  |
| 2. a - 0  | b - 0     | b - 10    |
| b - 6     | c - 2     | c - 6     |
| c - 10    | d - 5     | 9. a - 6  |
| 3. a - 10 | 6. a - 0  | b - 0     |
| b - 0     | b - 0     | c - 10    |
| c - 3     | c - 10    | 10. a - 6 |
| d - 6     | d - 6     | b - 10    |
| e - 0     | e - 6     | c - 0     |

0 - 35

You're pathetic. I mean, why did you ever bother to go to all the trouble of filling this out in the first place?

36 - 50

You'll pass, but don't forget that you've got a lot more power as an individual than you may think...

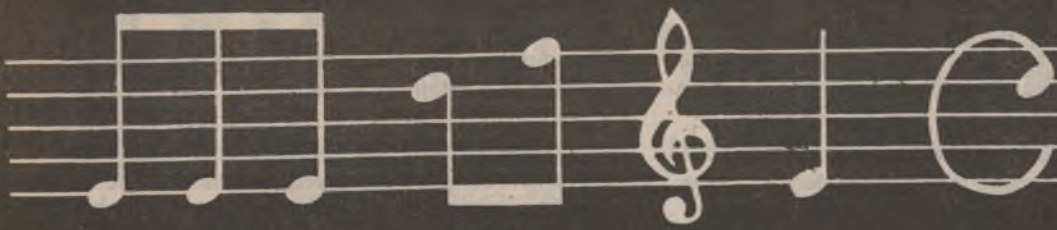
51 - 85

Wow - the world could do with more people like you! So, why weren't you working for Craccum this year?

86 - 110

You have the motivation to change the world, but you'll never be able to from behind bars - because that's where you'll end up if you keep using such extreme and uncompromising tactics!





## THIS WEEK..

**STEP UP JACK** and **HOI POLLOI** play at the Liberty Stage (Edinburgh Castle) this Thursday the 29th at 8pm.

Step Up Jack has been playing at Shadows a bit recently, to quite an enthusiastic following—they play mainly originals, sometimes describing themselves as 'atmospheric funk'—this band are quite professional and worth checking out. Hoi Polloi (ex-Jamboree) are more commercial/pop oriented. \$5 at the door.



**STEP UP JACK** - Raise roof and landlord with Hoi Polloi this Thursday.



**ANIGMA**—on their way to Connixions Saturday night.

Thrash-metallers **ANIGMA** will be playing at Connixions nightclub in Albert St, this Saturday night Oct 1. The band will come on during Happy Hour (between 11pm—12) so you can catch them when the pubs close. Entry's only \$5.

**STRANGE DEVICES** play at the Rising Sun also on Thursday night, from 8-10pm. They advise to listen out for their ad on BFM and look out for their posters...

## AUCKLAND PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

**Michael Houstoun, conductor and pianist and New Music Prelude**

**Town Hall**  
**Wed Sept 28**  
**\$23.50/students from \$17.50**

Starting at 8pm, NZ's finest pianist Michael Houston will perform Bach's d minor concerto and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 in B flat. He will then conduct Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4 in A, The Italian.

Preceding the main programme at 7pm is the first of two half-hour long New Music Preludes, designed to bring unusual or innovative work to a wider audience. This will feature clarinetist Peter Scholes and percussionist Bruce McKinnon in performing two works by Scholes—Wireless for Clarinet, and Time For Three, for clarinet, percussion, drum machine and digital delay. This mini-concert begins at 7pm, admission is free to all those with tickets to the main-bill performance.



## WHAT'S ON

### POETRY

#### POETRY AT THE ALBION

Mondays, at the Albion Tavern  
October 3—Alan Riach and Kath Tait

Starting at 7.30pm is singer-guitarist Kath Tait, then at 8.15 is poetry from the floor. The guest poet, Scotsman Alan Riach will begin at 9.15. Riach is a frequent visitor to New Zealand. 'Un-told' has just published his poem 'For What It Is', and his poetry has been published in magazines and anthologies in both countries.

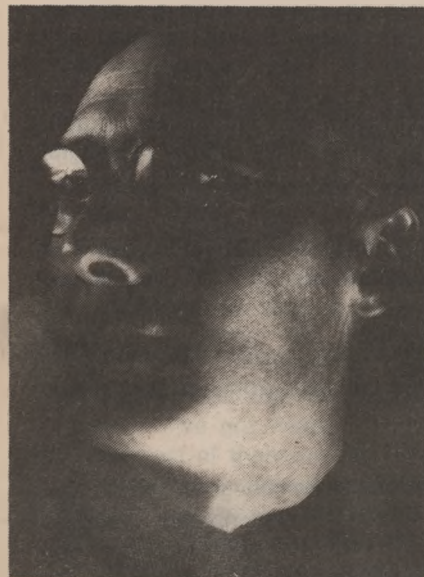
### ART

#### RODCHENKO as PHOTOGRAPHER

Auckland City Art Gallery  
Until Oct 23

This collection of 54 photographs from Alexander Rodchenko shows a diverse range of the work of this Russian constructivist photographer.

Rodchenko: 'Tretyakov', 1928.



Rodchenko (1891-1956) was a pioneer of constructivist design, using photomontage, the juxtaposition of different images, and spatial distortion. He believed the role of the artist was to act as a catalyst for social change, and created compelling images of the modern world, recording revolutionary ideas prevalent in Russia at the time.

#### CITY ART GALLERY OPEN LATE EVENING

Thursday Sept 29  
Open 5-9pm

As well as being able to view the current exhibitions (Duane Hanson's 'Real People', exhibitions of work from Albin Martin and Philip Clairmont, and photographs by Rodchenko being the highlights), the other activities will include: A video on Philip Clairmont screening throughout the evening and a tour of his exhibition, a talk on Rodchenko, and a number of art-related videos. Programmes are available at the gallery reception.

### THEATRE

#### DIPLOMA OF DRAMA CHILDREN'S SEASON

University Drama Studio  
Sept 29—Oct 3

Diploma of Drama students are performing two half-hour plays for children, though also enjoyable as light entertainment for adults. 'Miaow-Miaow and the Fat Black Pua', a new play written by Mary-Anne Bourke, tells the story of a girl and her kitten on a rescue mission, the drama enhanced with music and special effects.



'You Can't be Brave Until You've Been Afraid', is a fun play centering around a pair of clowns in a circus. Written by Murray Edmond, it was performed over 90 times in Wellington in 1980-81. A review in the Evening Post described it as "real neat, a smasher, a humdinger...the happiest of

children's shows."  
Performance times are:  
Sept 29: 6pm  
30: 11am, 6pm  
Oct 1: 4pm  
2: 4pm  
3: 11am, 6pm

# ABELARD and HELOISE

by Ronald Millar

## Galatos St Theatre

**Sept 25  
to Oct 8**  
**Sun. 4 p.m.**  
**Tue-Sat 8 p.m.**  
**\$10 - \$8**

**BOOKINGS**  
**PH: 33-206**

*a Theatre Workshop Production*



# KING LEAR—Theatre Workshop Summer Shakespeare '89

'Can't tell why one's nose stands i'th middle on's face? To keep one's eyes of either side's nose, that what a man may not smell out, he may spy into.'

Next year, the Summer Shakespeare will delve into the mysteries of this principle; the 'cosmic banana - skin' of tragedy. Everyone but Lear knows that there will be tears before bedtime as he turns his back on his youngest daughter and banishes the one man

prepared to confront him with the truth of his folly. We will all watch with fascination as the wanton boy gods pull apart the characters in order to teach them the enduring lessons of life. 'Men must endure their going hence even as their coming hither. Ripeness is all.'

Get the picture? When the University year begins in 1989, go and see this amazing play. It will be directed by well known person of the theatre Michael Hurst, who has

already begun to assemble a cast and crew of extreme talent in order to fulfill the demands of Shakespeare's most moving and strangely absurd tragedy.

Michael has a passion for Shakespeare, having been involved in productions ranging from 'As You Like It' to 'Macbeth', and he believes that there is no more exciting and dynamic theatre to be experienced than that of Shakespearian tragedy - 'providing it is not treated as something holy and

aesthetic'.

'This production of King Lear will be energetic and forceful, utilising the strength of the poetry and the extreme nature of the ideas. I want the play to resonate on all levels, to plumb the depths of despair and yet uplift the audience with its compassion.'

It should be a total experience. The Outdoor Summer Shakespeare, 1989.

'Now, gods, stand up for bastards!'

## REVIEWS

### FILM

#### 'THE BIG EASY'

Director: Jim McBride

This film, like the city it depicts, lives and breathes atmosphere. At the centre of this microcosm is Dennis Quaid, playing highly deviant New Orleans cop Remy McSwain, investigating a series of Mafia-style assassinations. Enter Ellen Barkin as a straight laced attorney putting police credibility under the magnifying glass, and you've got a super-classy romantic thriller incorporating an incredibly wide variety of dramatic elements.

But it is the presence of other influences that prevents this example of a traditionally predictable cinematic genre from falling into the depths of banality. Quaid makes the most of his beguiling grin which made him such an appealing figure in 'The Right Stuff' and more recently 'Innerspace'.

His charm coupled with Ellen Barkin's intensely played struggle to maintain emotional and professional stability inevitably makes for an involving, sexy and stormy relationship which is dragg-

ed through a number of testing scenarios from the bedroom to the courtroom. This tautness between the two characters is successfully elucidated by Quaid and Barkin, whose emotional interaction is well interspersed around the wider action of the film to produce an even mix of the two plots.

Jim McBride's loose direction makes good yet subtle use of the New Orleans environment, and attributes the film with an informal yet intense atmosphere. McBride's extensive use of low, sinister camera angles is particularly evocative. All this is complemented by a brilliantly moody soundtrack comprising of local artists and a score by Brad Fiedel. One cannot recommend this film too highly, but on the basis of acting performance, and McBride's apparent sense of style and affinity with the New Orleans environment and mentality, it certainly warrants attention.

Richard Tompsett

#### 'TWIST AND SHOUT'

(Charley Grey's)  
Commences Sept 31

'Twist and Shout' (original title 'Faith, Hope and Love') is a mild tragi-comedy, detailing the lives of four Danish teenagers in the Beatle-crazy days of 1964. Bjorn plays a Beatle-clone band,

and originally goes out with Kirsten but leaves her for new love Anna. Anna falls pregnant to Bjorn and is compelled to seek an (illegal) abortion. They then separate and Bjorn is reunited (rather reluctantly) with Kirsten to the point of engagement. Parallel to this, Bjorn's best friend Erik has to cope with his sick mother, and extremely strict father.

Bille August wrote and directed the film and although the story itself is not terribly remarkable, it has been well-balanced in its tenderness, comedy and tragedy with considerable sensitivity and style.

It is well-acted, sombrely-paced, very Danish and very pleasurable to watch.

MB

#### 'SURF NAZIS MUST DIE'

Sometime in the near future... a major earthquake has devastated the entire California coastline. As the survivors attempt to put their lives back together, a new, more terrifying threat erupts - the rise of a wretched Reich which will really rock the Richter scale! These terrifying terrorists, the wrongdoers of Big Sur ARE THE SURF NAZIS.

Lloyd Kaufman for Troma pictures has produced the bad-taste movie of the future, though I wonder if it was intended as such. To qualify as a bad-taste thriller, it must have an insubstantial plot, low budget, a small, inex-

perienced cast and unnecessary, badly done special effects. But I exaggerate. Surf Nazis Must Die is a reasonably exciting story with a couple of really good characters and a number of really memorable lines. The film revolves around the classic 'vendetta' theme but there is no muscle-bound avenger here. The Bat-man of this film is a huge 'Mama'; 'She's tough... she's dangerous... she's wide-hipped and strong willed'.

This woman is first uprooted by an earthquake and then her son Leroy is murdered by marauding Surf Nazis. She will go to desperate lengths to bring about her own version of justice. Which involves blowing people up, decapitating a surfer with a jet-boat and sticking a gun into 'Adolf's' mouth - 'Taste some of Mama's home-cooking sucker!'. The script suffers from quite a few such lines and the make-up (futuristic daubs of coloured zinc) is just a little unimaginative. But the humour, intended or not, really saves the film and turns it into something quite enjoyable; if you're into badly edited scenes of surfing, 'hanging Ten Gestapo style', and perverted sex on the beach.

Soon to be released at Charlie Gray's, this film is a semi-must if you feel like laughing at something and being educated at the same time.

Robyn Gill

## BOOKS THE KATHERINE MANSFIELD PRESS

### THE COMPLETE STORIES OF KATHERINE MANSFIELD

ed Vincent O'Sullivan (of course).  
Viking Press thru Penguin; 6/7/88;  
\$29.95 hardback

### KATHERINE MANSFIELD - The Woman and the Writer

Gillian Boddy  
Penguin; 20/7/88; \$29.95

### KATHERINE MANSFIELD'S NEW ZEALAND

Vincent O'Sullivan (again).  
Viking Press thru Penguin; 20/7/88;  
\$24.95

Beautiful books are indeed things to hold and behold. I am always thrilled when a work (-s, in this case) is released which not only captures the reader through its own artistry but also beckons people to pick it up and hold

it, to relax with it and then... off we go! The Complete Stories is beautifully bound and is just thick enough to be held comfortably in the hand. The typeface and uncrowded layout gives it an old but not ancient air - and like the best hardbacks it smells wonderfully.

Though Penguin have a local branch, Viking Press is, I believe, a New York press, which constantly shows the ubiquity of K.M.'s consumption. However, what gets me is that only four months ago another publisher released the complete K.M. in five traditionally-sized volumes, so that there may be a 'glut in the market', as they say.

Those doing New Zealand Lit' may have used the Complete Stories published by the Avondale, Auckland-based Golden Press. The Viking-Penguin edition and the Golden Press volume are, I discover, one and the same, even down to the pagination. So, even though they're not really treading on each others' toes, I felt a wee twinge of feeling 'cheated' - like finding out that Weetbix's main rival, Vita-Brits, is

made by the same people. It's a cruel life!

Katherine Mansfield - The Woman and the Writer is an excellent book because of an odd sense of familiarity which it evokes. Full of photos, quotes, extracts and facts, this volume teems with life and levity and offers more than the trad' 'This is where she was born, blah-blah, school, blah-blah...' Sure, this book deals with all that, but quickly, then onwards...

I am sure that the author, Gillian Boddy, late of Auckland University, feels a strong affinity with Mansfield, rather than the usual clinical and/or academic fascination - the scientist with her 'project'.

It's a pity that so many of the photos are of such dreadful condition; obviously they have been reproduced as well as possible, but the originals are so sadly sandy and weathered.

Overall, a pleasing companion to my other Mansfieldana.

The disappointment is Vincent ('If It's Arty I'll Edit a Publication Of It') O'Sullivan's Katherine Mansfield's New Zealand. A team-mate with 'The

Beatles' England', 'The Gandhis' Bahawalpur', 'Trotsky's Vladivostok' and 'The Kennedys' Favourite Cemeteries', not forgetting the soon-to-be-released 'Winston Peters' Hunua and Other Political Playgrounds'.

Basically, this book has sweet f' a' to do with K.M., but if it were advertised as 'Photos of People and Places at the Dawn of the Century', it probably wouldn't catch the shelf-browser's eye as easily. Even the few photos of Katherine Mansfield tell the viewer little of the writer herself other than that she wore ghastly hats.

I like photographic books and I like biographies, but books which are caught in the middle while aspiring to serve as both usually achieve neither. Great for Fathers' Day, Xmas, present for any of the grandparents and, of course, dinky souvenir shops for loud Americans with Michelin waists - as for the more discerning of us, something a little less lazy on the part of the editor is required.

Ah well, two out of three ain't bad!

Aidan-B. Howard

## POETIC LICENCE

### I AM

Since I first saw the light, from a dark cavern,  
your gaze has followed me.  
Shaping my thoughts, ideas.  
Through you I know Socrates, aware some don't.  
As I walk in the shadow of my;  
father dressed in blue.  
Mother suburban housewife.  
Brother insurance broker.  
Sharing what has been taught to me in the corridors of intellect  
with my friends.  
Together not seeing another world, nor wanting to.  
While my arms laden with dirt or ink.  
Shake the hands of artifice, till white lillies say otherwise,  
not feeling its coldness.

Flesh, blood I am not.  
I am you, steel, plastic.

T. Olsen

### ODE TO WILLIE NELSON AND COUNTRY POETRY

Look out poets I'm on the ode again,  
looking for another homonym,  
paying homage to my bent  
for I'm so glad to be on the ode again.

On the ode again,  
getting prettily poetically repetitive,  
playing country music in my head  
for I don't know when this trend will end.

On the ode again,  
straining to take quotes  
from couplets on the highway  
who travelled my way,  
we're the best of friends -  
this dog poem and David Eggleton,  
by far the bard of radical politico potatoheads.

On the ode again, yeah we're near the end,  
have to peel the spuds for supper my friend,  
ha you reckon this is clever but wait for the sequel  
cause I can't wait to be ont he ode again.

Shimon, you know it,  
and the whole wide world  
has really gone mad  
cause they're asking their poets  
'Who's BAD?'

Robert Sullivan

O-ghod

Oh-GOD!!  
what?  
what!  
pardon,  
sorry...

D.F. McShane



\*\*\* SEX \*\*\*  
\*\* MONEY \*\*  
\*\* POWER \*\*

# STUFF!

All this, and more could be yours if you're the Craccum Advertising Manager for 1989. If you're interested see Media Officer Michelle Hunt in Rm 106, 1989 Craccum Editor Aidan B. Howard at AUSA Reception or come up to the Craccum office on the top floor of the Student Union.

## GAY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

We are having our usual weekly meeting on Friday in Rm 139 (above Maidment foyer) from 5.00pm - 7.00pm. See you there!

## UNIVERSITY FILM SOCIETY

Wednesdays at 6.30pm in B15.  
**This week:** 'Vampyr' (Germany, 1932. Dir: C.T. Dreyer).  
**Next week:** 'Simone de Beauvoir' (France, 1978. Dir: Malka Ribowski, Josee Dayan). New members welcome.

## AUCKLAND FILM SOCIETY

Tuesdays at Charley Gray's.  
**This week:** 6.00pm only 'Intolerance' (U.S.A. 1916. Dir: D.W. Griffith). One of the silent cinema's greatest films.  
Please contact Kirsten Thompson for any further information or queries on the Auckland Film Society, ph 764-590.

## END OF YEAR SERVICE

The Christian groups and A.U. Chaplains invite you to our combined worship service, Monday October 3rd 1pm in the Functions Room.

### 'TESTING TIMES'

Preacher: Prof. Khoo Boo Wah  
Organised by Evangelical Union, Catholic Society, Christian Focus, Navigators, Student Life, Overseas Christian Fellowship and Chaplains.

## YOUNG WRITERS

Wanted to publish in new Wgtn-based literary magazine. Contact Kathy ph 780-037.

## CLUBS FOR AFFILIATION

A.U. Cricket Society

## A.U. DEBATING CLUB

Debate: Tues 4th Oct. 8pm - University Hall.  
"That the bride should wear black."

## CAPPING REVIEW DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the position of Director of the Association 1989 Capping Review, which is scheduled for the first week of May.

Applications should be made in writing to the undersigned and should contain details of the applicant's relevant experience, an outline of plans for the show and an indication of the level of remuneration (if any) anticipated.

Applications close at 5.00pm on Friday 9th December 1988. An appointment will be made by the AUSA Executive shortly thereafter.

Pilar Alba,  
SECRETARY

## LEGAL REFERRAL SERVICE

Available to all students. Mon, Tues, Thurs, 12-2pm. Rm 3, 4th floor, Law School.

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN TOURING OR FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT SUE DEMPSEY NZ STUDENTS ARTS COUNCIL PH (04) 850 214 WELLINGTON PO BOX 9266**

**BANDS**  
**POETS**  
**THEATRE**  
**DANCE**  
**MUSICIANS**  
**SOLO ACTS**

## POL. STUDIES OPEN MEETING

14 Symonds St. Seminar Room 1pm Tuesday 27th Sept. Discussion - Pare Prison Situation. Guest Speakers - 3 Mongrel Mob Members.

## MEDITATION-WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS BY DADA

'Being in touch with my inner self gives me peace of mind in any situation... even during exams. Overcoming negativity in me and from others becomes easy when I feel who I really am.'

Be invited to learn about meditation, a skill for life, from an experienced meditation-teacher on Fri 30th September at 12.00 noon in the Exec Lounge.

## DISORIENTATION WEEK FESTIVAL OF MAORI FILMS AND VIDEOS

OCT 11th - OCT 14th, 1988

MAURI MAKUTU ON MRS JONES PATU BASTION POINT KARANGA HOKIANGA and many more unreleased films and videos by: RAMAI HAYWARD, MERATA MITA, BARRY BARCLAY, RANGI CHADWICK, TED NIA, LARRY PARR, TAMA POATA, PUHI RANGIAHO, LISA REIHANA, TAINUI STEVENS, PETER TUREI, LISA VAN DER AARDE, JUDY MURUPAENGA.

The second festival of Maori films is scheduled to take place on Auckland University campus from the 11th Oct to the 14th Oct starting with a Hui at the University Marae on Tuesday evening and followed by three days of screenings on campus.

The festival will provide people with the opportunity to see many film and video projects produced and directed by Maori people. The programme includes several preview screenings of new works as well as those that we seldom see.

The Festival programme has been organised by AUSA in conjunction with Te Manu Aute Ki Tamaki Makaurau, who are a collective of Maori film and video producers, directors and production workers who's kaupapa is to encourage, promote and facilitate Maori production in all communications media.

Videos will be screened on the University Marae on the evening Tue 11th Oct and films will be shown in B.28 and the Architecture Design Theatre.

Pre-booking is essential and all enquiries to AUSA reception. Phone 390 789, ask for Ella Henry or Dia.

HAERE MAI NAUMAI E HOA MAA.

## N.Z.S.A.C.

Dearest People

This is official notification of NZSAC's upcoming October Council. Could you please advertise/display it where appropriate.

1. The October Council (AGM) of the New Zealand Students Arts Council will be held on:  
Saturday 15th October  
10am  
V.U.W.S.A. Student Union Building  
Downstairs Cafeteria
2. Nominations are open for the following positions:  
President  
Secretary, and  
5 Executive Board Members for 1989  
Nominations close on Friday 14th October at 5pm. Please send a letter of nomination and a C.V.  
Kind regards  
**David Rea**  
PRESIDENT, NZSAC

## 'ECONOMICS AND CHRISTIAN THOUGHT'

A discussion on economics from the Christian viewpoint. A short paper will be given on 'Is the centrally planned economy consistent with Christianity?' by Gillis Maclean (Department of Economics), followed by discussion.

1 to 2pm, Wednesday 28 September in OCH 2.

All interested are welcome to attend.

## ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Otago student requires place in flat from the third week in November to the third week in February 1989. Please contact M. Strang, 519 Castle Street, Dunedin.

## CHEF AID

Does your cat prefer Chef? Have you been collecting the lotto numbers on Chef labels? I have, but I still need an 11 and a 13. If you have extra 11's or 13's or have ones (11's and 13's) that you don't need, please call me (Jo) on 572-730. Am willing to enter into mutually advantageous swapping negotiations.

## CHRISTIAN FOCUS

Friday, 30th September 1.00pm Clubroom, Rec Centre. Coping with exams - practically and ethically - panel discussion - Dr Raymond Miller, David Williams and Julie Maxton.

# HENRY'S

AT THE UNIVERSITY CLUB

## MENU

### STARTERS

Soup of the Day (please ask the waiting staff)	3.50
Rock Oyster Kilpatrick (Hot oyster served in the shell with worcestershire sauce & chopped bacon)	6.50
Fish Pieces in Tangy Dressing (Battered fish pieces served with chefs Tangy Dressing)	5.50
Chicken Liver with Cream Sauce (Chopped chicken livers sauté in Cream & Mixed Pepper Spice)	4.50
Nacho's & Sour Sauce (Spicy Nacho's topped with Cheese & Sour Sauce)	5.50

### TREBBLE DECKER SPECIALITY SANDWICHES

ClubHouse: Sliced Turkey with Bacon, Lettuce, Gherkin and Mango Chutney	9.80
B.L.T.: Trebble deckered with Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato	8.80
Ham & Swiss: Toasted Rye Bread with Ham & Grilled Swiss Cheese	7.80
Rare Roaster: Rare Roast Beef with Spinach, Dill Pickle & Horse Radish Cream	7.50

### EGGS & OMELETTES

Poached Eggs Benedict (Two Poached eggs & Grilled Ham served on a bun and covered in Hollandaise Sauce)	7.00
Omelettes Plain, Mushroom, Ham, Cheese, Tomato	7.80

### HOT SPECIALITIES

Grilled Gammon Steak (Gammon Steak served with Grilled Pineapple)	8.00
Sirloin Steak (Prime Sirloin served with Garlic & Parsley Butter)	9.80
Scotch Fillet with Mushrooms (Aged Scotch Fillet served with Mushrooms in Butter Sauce)	10.50
Beef Satay (Tender cubes of Rump Marinated & served with Spicy Peanut Sauce)	9.50
Lamb Kebabs (Lamb cubes pan fried and Glazed with Kiwifruit puree)	8.50
Seafood Crepes (Selection of Seafoods wrapped in a Crepe with Creamy Sauce topped with cheese & grilled)	8.25
Fish of the Day (Please ask your waiting staff)	9.20
Chicken Supreme (Diced Chicken Breast in a Light Paprika sauce)	8.40
Honey Glazed Chicken Wings (Chicken wings tossed in Honey & Soy Sauce sprinkled with Sesame Seeds)	7.55

### PASTA

Vegetarian Lasagna (Seasoned vegetables layered between Spinach Pasta sheets)	6.25
Cannelloni (Pasta tubes filled with Spicy Meat topped with Napolitana Sauce & Cheese)	6.00
Fettucine (Fettucine Noodles tossed in Cream & Parmesan Cheese with Spicy Mixed Herbs)	6.50

### To Accompany Your Meal

### BREADS (for two)

Garlic Bread (French Roll spread with Garlic & Parsley)	1.80
Fresh Herb (French Roll spread with fresh Herb Butter)	1.80
Pizza Bread (Lebanese Bread spread with Garlic, Spice & Black Pepper)	1.80

### BEVERAGES

Tea	1.50
Coffee	1.50

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## Hours

Lunch 11am - 2:30pm Dinner 6pm - 9pm

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## ATTENTION RAVERS CHOCOLATE FISH

If you've written an interesting letter this year then check out the Rave On page next week. If your name's listed then you can collect a chocolate fish (and possibly more) from our office where you can meet the Editors IN PERSON! You may even be invited to a very special party!!!

## FRASER #ARCHER

Dear Craccum,  
Alas, poor Sheryl Jackson has got it wrong yet again. For it is not I who is the infamous Archer, nor is it I who has ever been an apologist for Stalinism. Unfortunately Sheryl's perceptions of authors is as accurate as her analysis of capitalism. I would suggest that if Sheryl spent more time studying history, rather than the wonders of laissez-faire capitalism-economics Stage I, she would know it wasn't Stalin who erected the Berlin Wall as she has claimed.

Fraser Wood

## LETH WOWWY

Dear Jo Smith (20.9.88),  
I feel that yourw conthern with war and nuclear armth and the political playpen ith entiweily unwawwanted. I hath nether theen a nuclear arm (though I am a membew of a nuclear family ith thith thimlar?). Ath for war, I often argue with my fwiendth and family but we dwaw the line at chemical weaponth.

Politich go ath far ath twying to bowwow the family car (thinth thome bathtard wote mine off) and thuth I would not thucctheed too well. I think.

The economy ith itholated to my howendeth overdwaft whith the bank manager theems overly contherned about.

Ath for unemployment, I don't enjoy working anyway tho it dothent bother me.

The one thing that doeth affecth me ith the female thex. There ith nothing wong with dithcwinination becauth without it we would hath no Pathe Thwee girlies - and that would jutht not be wight, would it? Tho yeth indeeth people, leth wowwy about dithcwiniration and how we can keep it wampant.

Thighned  
The one and only: Getit Toffe



## ABSENCE CONSPICUOUS

Dear Editor,  
We have just come from Rex Hallidays of the NZ Aids Foundation informative and entertaining talk on the killer disease AIDS and how to protect yourself through enjoyable and pleasurable safe sex. It is sad and potentially tragic that once again we saw the resistance of people to taking personal responsibility for informing and equipping themselves.

Conspicuous by their absence were heterosexual male and female and 'concerned Christians'. It is disappointing to see despite the well publicised efforts of Student Health that there was a very poor turnout by heterosexual people. Does this mean they are well informed and are taking action about the aids issue?!! So much so that there was no need for them to turn up, once again we saw an example of a dangerous denial of an issue that does not respect differences in sexual orientation.

Obvious in their absence were the supposedly 'concerned' and 'compassionate' 'Christians', perhaps they are more concerned with spreading fear through misinformation - rather than knowledge. Once again we wish to thank Student Health for their excellent work, information and free condoms continue to be available from them. We are responsible for protecting ourselves we must take that responsibility.

Yours sanely  
Sally Thomson  
Leigh Rampton

## FRIENDS ?

Dear Ed,  
Re: Peter Sampson's (Real Student) letter, - I didn't think Graham Watson had any friends.

Wit E. B'Stard

## UN-LAW RULES

Spineless Citizen Editor,  
I, Judge Grudge do state that the Dragon is not in my employ, nor is it an acquaintance or associate of mine. I have never even met the creature (incidentally it is not a reptile-dragons are saurians).

Furthermore I will state that it was I, and I alone, who caused the explosion in the biochem lab. As the city is now lawless, I can indulge my deviances and pyromania without let or hindrance.

The conflagration was caused by placing Link Angel in the computer room with a supply of Umpty Candy. Inside one of the Freeble Fingers was a miniaturised thermonuclear detonator and when he bit it, history was made.

Link is still peeved about chipping his tooth like that, so I had Fink use paralyisin' pizzen on him. Un-law rules this city.

The Lawbreaker,  
Renegade Judge Grudge

## MOLESTATION ORDERS

Dear Craccum,  
We, the undersigned have taken out non molestation orders on all automatic doors and turnstiles, with the Auckland district court. We express our abhorrence at the perverted harassment of both males and females on the University Campus. We feel the library turnstiles should be arrested and incarcerated in the penal institutions of this land for their daily violation of our thighs and various other parts of our body.

Signed  
Mathew Hobbs  
Jo Shanks  
Melanie Paeplee  
Brandon Healy

## LACK OF UNDERSTANDING

Dear Craccum,  
We have witnessed in recent Craccum issues much debate over feminism which has brought out extreme neo-traditional attitudes against women. I believe that Craccum ought to exercise some sensitivity over such unfavourable attitudes being a responsible arm of the student body.

Ignorance of Feminism, as a body of people, men and women, from as far back as the 1800's who have struggled on endlessly for womens vote, political rights, equality etc and more, is unacceptable in any academic institution, especially where half the student population and staff are women. Some great men like Christ, G.B. Shaw, Buddha, Confucius are feminists because they recognised all the injustices to 'women'.

Injustices in the 1800s are still prevalent today: domestic violence, rape, child abuse (5 out of 6 abuses are on little girls), pornography and sexual harassment. Women have had to work for survival too and other needs viz child-care facilities, half-way houses, womenspace and abortion clinics cannot be ignored. Also there will always be the chauvinists, men and women who need feminism for enlightenment such as over erroneous equation of 'rape' to 'non-contact rape'. This shows the lack of understanding of women's sufferings. I have no difficulty in knowing the difference between the two although English is my second language. Telethons alone don't solve problems, a collective responsibility is required.

When the need arises, I have never hesitated to open doors, buy roses or chocolates, help a person to a chair. Manners are never static; or if they were then all men out there will still don hats and take them off each time a woman passes by; and there isn't enough doctors to treat all the rheumatism and arthritis caused by this 'manner'. Society today and that of yesterday are very different; so must be our understanding of the problems we face today. Now can we lose sight of the benefits that all men and women in the past have won. Remember, any further benefits accruing from feminist struggles benefit all women and men, feminists or otherwise. And for as long as we are women, we can never hope to piss standing up.

Yours for an Open Mind  
Dia

ED's Note: I yet again reiterate our disclaimer, and would point out that any statement that can be seen as extremist will usually illicit a backlash of opposite points of view (often extreme also). We endeavour to publish all points of view where practicable.

## ANDROGYNOUS

Dear Craccum,  
'Red Sonja' chooses her nom de plume well because red is the true colour of modern feminism today. Feminism took its first steps in Germany during the student unrest of the 1970's, and chose Marxism as its metaphysical base. Today's feminists aren't interested in juridical and social equality of the woman - they seek complete homogeneity of the sexes, or better said, they want to be men who menstruate.

Modern feminists seek a 'new' home being (androgynous) within a 'new' world. Equal but different - yes. Feminism as it has become enslaving women and denying their womanhood - no. That's true freedom!

Toni-L. Williams

## MALAYSIAN STUDENTS AGAIN!

Dear S.A. (SOUTH AFRICAN?..... oh no! .... me thinks you're just a Silly A---hole),  
From the observation that your article on Malaysian students and the very Popular Beatle's article appeared at about the same time in the otherwise dull CRACCUM, I'm glad that there are sensible people around (taking the number of responses Beatle received to the three that you got as the weighing scale). I realise that you have tried to initiate/provoke an argument and may have wanted to see if our plight was genuine (giving you the best benefit of doubts). Even at this extreme, your approach not only stinks but assures me that your political science knowledge is going to take you no further than graduation. The plighful and defensive responses (everyone of them from Asian students) you have received has not failed to exhibit that you have hit something close to their hearts. I must say that it is inevitable that there must be some really 'S.A.s' like you in any society and it means a lot to us that not many other Kiwis share your views. Under this circumstance I would consider it an insult to educate you of our plight (as behind all that bloody arrogance, you know damn well that there is earnestness in our requests), all I would like to say to you is PISS OFF! OR SHUT UP!

P. Narayanan  
(Union of Malaysian Students, Auckland)

## POISON PEN

Dear Starless and Bible Black,  
So, U R a real live Christian eh? Thanx 4 your letter. But, being the Great Deceiver that I am (as you may guess I'm not a Model Man), I will B a Howler and bore U with more Elephant Talk.

I'd just like to carve with a poison pen a few things about that letter U wrote with quill and silver knife:-

a) Firstly, U contradicted yourself by saying that U R not ignorant because U didn't bother replying to my letters, (which U did reply to), so does this make U ignorant, or just indisciplined?

b) As for 'Religion was invented by humans because they couldn't handle facing up to the reality of being alone int he universe' - I wouldn't use that argument because it has been said before, and U say that it is a worthwhile argument; is this your own doubt showing thru'?

c) Lastly, I'd like to say that U must be a Man With An Open Heart as your knowledge of K.C. is most commendable.

So, I guess we are all just one great big Happy Family beneath this Sheltering Sky rite here in Neutotica, and feel free to rite One More Red Nightmare to Neel and Jack and Me and if we like it We'll Let You Know.

Signed  
The Charging Hippo Who Iz Fragile and Close To The Edge

P.S. Hey Eddie Babey - do I get a chocolate fish for this one?

P.P.S. Please don't tell mummy!

EDDIE SEZ: Look out for the chocolate fish awards in the last issue (methinks thou hast a good chance sirrah!)

## UNHOLY SCOURGE

Fellow crusaders,  
It has come to our attention in this year of the Lord, 1988; that the hallowed halls of Auckland University are threatened by an unholy scourge. The invasion of the short-skirted, knobby-kneed, hairy-palmed Celtic Rastafarian McGillicuddy Clan is imminent. All crusaders are hereby enjoined to rally around the standards of righteousness, truth and godliness in defense of our noble institution. The McGillicuddy invasion will be met with extreme pacifist violence and general acts of non-aggression.

You are called to assemble at the battlefield (green by the quad) at 1pm on Tuesday 27th September and there to lay down your lives to wipe out the heathen, cowardly scumbottocks off the face of the earth.

Yours in the joy of a battle well fought,  
Cardinal Go-Ahead-Make-My-Day Harry

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## TOO SHY

Dear Mr Amazing,  
Who are you? I've seen you often in Shadows on Friday night (I too am a regular) and I know you've seen me. I've always been too shy to approach you. You always seem to have other women hanging around you. I sit by myself, slowly getting drunk, staring at your curly blonde hair and loving blue eyes. I love your nose (you know what they say about men with big noses). It's not that I'm not attractive, but most guys only seem to want one thing from me. I know you are different. Don't listen to these feminist ball crunchers. REAL WOMEN like a bit of loving attention. I know you can give it to me. You are obviously a real gentleman, unlike that fuckwit S. Hittstirrer (Craccum 13/9).

Yours Anytime,  
**Brown eyed Blonde**

P.S. If you wear your orange shirt and black waistcoat in Shadows on Friday 23/9, I'll approach you.  
P.P.S. I love Camel too.

## SURREALISTIC PILLOW

Dear Editor,  
Through sources I cannot name, some very interesting concepts have come into my possession, which I feel I must immediately be revealed to the whole world.  
- Jesus and the twelve Apostles were really the first long-haired, sandal-clad acid rock band, who drove their hallucinating audiences into 'miracle frenzies' - How else do you explain all those loaves and fishes, and lepers suddenly being cured.  
- Noah didn't have an ark - it was a housetruck!  
- Joseph's dreams were the result of a horrendous peyote addiction - who else would wear a psychedelic coat?  
- Moses didn't part the red sea - the tide was out, and he'd been spotting hash for hours.  
- Lazarus didn't come back from the dead - what he did have was an incredible hangover ) 'What a night - man - I feel dead'!  
- Joshua's mammoth concert, just outside Jericho got a little out of hand, and the foundations crumbled.  
- Adam and Eve - was it an Apple - or ACID??  
- As for those old prophets having 'visions' - get real!!!

Is there anyone out there in that barren, straight university wilderness who doesn't think that the meaning of life is a good shot of God into the arm. Does anyone appreciate the finer more uplifting things in life - like Jefferson Airplane, hair that's longer than that on a toilet brush and daisies and sprouts? May you spin forever in a kaleidoscopic haze of paisley.

**Grace Slick**  
The White Rabbit Ed Sez: I'm sure Paul Kantner and Marty Balun agreed with you after Bathing at Baxters!. You deserve a chocolate fish for this amazingly accurate perception of the Universe.

## STD's

Dear Ed,  
Why must we put up with aids awareness week etc, when the students could be better off having a week about other STD's like claudia, which at the moment is the most common STD, easily preventable and can have such damaging effects on fertility of women, yet such a low occurrence of symptoms on their male partners (15% of males infected show symptoms)? This I feel would do more for the female and male members of the student population.

The Subscriber Toll Call Kid



## DANCE NAKED

Dear Mr Bloegarten,  
Yes, democracy is democracy, and this means that Christians do not hold the monopoly on free speech. If you want to denounce people for their lack of 'morals' or speak up on political matters you have this right, but other people have the right to reply to what you say. Christians do not hold the monopoly on knowing what is wrong with this country. Others realize and are trying to do something about it. What they are not doing is telling people how to run their lives the way 'God' intended.

I say 'God' because the God I believe in is different to the God you Christians worship. I follow an older religion, called Wicca. This does not mean that I prance around in funny robes chanting invocations to the devil, nor do I dance naked around a fire practicing witchcraft. I believe in earth magic, the magic of birth (that means sex Mr Bloegarten), death, and reincarnation. I do not kill nor do I cheat nor steal.

I find your generalisations about the way people react to your 'Christians prepared to take a stand' offensive and overbearing. What sort of stand are you prepared to take? Do you want all commie, homosexual pinkos locked away and all nonbelievers burnt at the stake, or what? Kiwis are not gutless nor do they always believe in what the Government tells them. Christians only constitute about three percent of the population and most of that three percent are a bunch of hypocrites. Which is what you sound like. So don't you start telling me what to do either. I believe in my own religion and have my own thoughts on politics but I do not force them on anyone. If you do not like what I have to say then you can try to burn me at the stake like your ancestors did in Europe.

**Belinda**  
Ordinary person

## TWADDLE

Dear Crack Up,  
Could you please re-print O.F.M.S.P.'s original letter and Beattie Treadwell's. Then people might know what they're replying to. Such eloquence - so wasted! Wots this about feminists having a meeting to place women in charge of all institutions? Everyone knows women have been running the Students Association all year and done a better job than the Wally regime. Guess they already had the meeting, huh? Also, we have it on good authority that Ms Treadwell's dog is not only male but also a moderate Christian feminist. Must explain his level of debate, Touche! By the way, as resident upper common room numerologists we have discovered that - F.A.F. divided by FOSTERS LAGER multiplied by and square rooted by OG = CLOSET LESBIAN. OMIGOD!! Does this explain why our honourable Prez is often driven home in a wheelbarrow? Is there some truth in all these rampant accusations? Does ROBS still have his bomb and if not can he explain the chemistry building fire? Confused? Yeah, well this twaddle is wot passes as intelligent discussion on women's rights in CRACK-UP - pity we can't write our essays like this but then who would take us seriously.

Yours from a great height,  
**The Radical Feminists Collective League**  
ED's Retort: Shouldn't your name be Dreadfully Insufficiently Knowledgeable, Equal-rights Society?

## FLATULENCE

Dear Ed,  
One night last week whilst involved in a quiet game of Mexican, one of the participants started flatulating wildly (ie letting off farts that would bring tears to your eyes).

When the individual was questioned as to whether he would commit such indecencies in the presence of females, his answer was 'certainly not'.

We felt that this reply was very degrading and took away our self-esteem, we therefore consider this to be a form of non-contact sodomy and would like other males who have suffered such sexual injustices to stand up and be heard.

Signed  
**Pete, Dave and Paul**

Yours in Christ,  
**IMELITA & SONNY**

## WATCHING YOU

Dear Dike-umvirate,  
You know what I'm talking about; as soon as I get a lover I want her (or him!) to be given a little job that pays heaps too. As for attacking Lange, Prebble and Goff, perhaps you three should work for us, after all, we pay two of you for the privilege.

Start to think with your brains and not the other parts of your body. We might be swotting for exams but my friends and I are watching you.

Yours with a periscope,  
**Peter Sampson**  
(A liberal real Joker)

## TRY SMILING

Dear Sir,  
Having been a member of the arts faculty for the past three years, I have been fortunate enough to have dealings with the English department staff whose helpfulness and courtesy are both encouraging and commendable.

However, a good nature of most of the dept, only serves to highlight the rude and abrupt administrative secretary whose sole purpose in her insignificant life appears to involve demeaning and humiliating every student with whom she comes into contact. This makes the exercise of initiating any conversation with the woman(?) a stressful and daunting task which is an unnecessary addition to the pressure of everyday workloads - particularly at stage III.

I do not doubt your efficiency or capability as far as your work is concerned, but it is too much to ask, Ms Hill, that you simply reciprocate the manners and respect with which you are treated and abandon the notion you seem to harbour so fondly, that you're superior to other human beings (for that is what we are) and justified in your nasty attitude.

Try smiling once in a while lady and you would make other people's lives a lot easier while giving your face a rest from its perpetual grimace.

In anticipation of less wrinkles.

Smiley

## THE GOD SQUAD REPLY

Dear Craccum,  
We are glad you had an 'awakening' when the Christians went open-air. To discover that you are still troubled, TWO MONTHS LATER and still seek our attention, reveals that your spirit is crying out for help and is in desperate need of it.

This is in reply to satisfy people like Asta Roth, 21st CSM and B.L. Zebut, who are concerned about the lack of response to their 'abusive letters' about 'molesting Christians'.

Well, we are such 'molesting Christians'. The reason why a lot have not written back is because your letters were so absurd, we did not think they were worthy of a reply. We do not wish to retaliate as you hoped, but we do offer you HOPE. Next time, please be more accurate when you quote from our 'Holy Textbook'. You will discover that (if you read the Bible from Genesis to Revelations) that we do not use 'pentagrams, stick needles in dolls or bleed the black goat'. In fact, we have a much more powerful means to get things done - PRAYER, and we are praying for you.

If you feel such a need to confront us on matters concerning our beliefs, then why don't you come and talk to us. The claim that 'the agents of Darkness are many' does not scare us, because these 'agents' were defeated by the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! If you choose to remain anonymous, then be prepared to write thousands of letters because we and 'moral minority' will continue to proclaim the Good News, but you have been a closet Christian critic. We are not actually interested in a debate through the Craccum that'll change your mind. We want a face to face discussion that can change your life.

## PARKING TO GET WORSE

Dear Rave On Editor,  
As a 3rd year student from the outer reaches of Auckland, I am concerned to hear that the student car park is about to be halved in size to allow a motorway off ramp to go ahead.

With the ever increasing number of students at Auckland University and the lack of street parking, I would like to know what alternative arrangements are being negotiated for students, some of whom have little choice but to bring in their cars.

This surely is a matter of concern for the Students Association and I would appreciate a reply in print, as I am certain there are many other students who would like to know what is happening.

J. Webber

## ARCHER = ARCHER

Dear Craccum,  
Sheryl Jackson has all the imperialist articles of faith about Stalin's Russia off pat, give or take a few million people according to the virulence of this or that author's hatred of socialism. Essentially that is why Stalin is always painted so black, because he was a real foe of imperialism. That Sheryl mixes up Hitler with Mussolini (who 'made the trains run on time'), and declares erroneously that Stalin erected the Berlin wall (after he died), that Archer is Fraser Wood - are all to be expected from a fervent anti-Marxist. She trots out the usual 'Stalin was worse than Hitler' piffle, calmly ignoring Hitler's killing of six million Jews, twenty million Russians, a few million Poles and other nationals, along with the fact that Russia under Stalin was the main force which defeated Hitler's Germany. Just by the way, it was Churchill (red propagandist) who said that 'The Red Army tore the guts out of the Wehrmacht.'

Actually, without Stalin's industrialisation and collectivisation of agriculture, his 'dubious industrial achievements', that could never have happened.

For Sheryl's benefit, there was no attempt in my short article to paint any utopia in Russia, certainly not now. What I did do was to quote Gorbachev on present Russian decadence while the 'heroic times' he lauded were in Stalin's day.

I said also that Stalin had his faults. But what was primary in his life was his achievements. One can't expect thoroughly bourgeois people to see the transformation of capitalism into socialism as an achievement, but those not blinded with prejudice can.

As for A.J. as he imagines abuse is a substitute for factual argument, he is hardly worth more than a line or two. It is clear he knows little or nothing about actual work in NZ workplaces, where unsafe orders are frequently given. The statistics I quoted gave the answer. Here is another: last year there were almost 300,000 work related accidents. It seems - in A.J.'s head, one must say - that none of these arose from any boss's orders. Try working in a low-pay factory, A.J. and maybe you'll come out of your dream world of ideal employers. But why the plug for BIL, which has not been mentioned in Slings and Arrows? Can it be you're after a job there?

ARCHER

## CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

### 'NOBODY EXPECTS THE SPANISH INQUISITION...'

A favourite charge of those who object to Christianity is that Christians are inclined to barbaric practices such as crusades, inquisitions and the like. That Christians are as inclined as the next group to share in the general delight in violence and injustice is, of course, true and continues to be so. And non-Christians do have a right to look for some consistence in the way that Christians organise themselves. Christians are supposedly inspired by the lofty sentiments of Jesus who said 'They who would be first must make themselves last and servants of all'. To that extent that Christians do not seem to be any closer to that ideal - Christians are just as inclined to be found among the ranks of exploiters in business or politics as any other group - is a source of scandal and should be recognized as such by Christian and non-Christian alike. Christian attempts to justify this contradiction by references to the 'realities of life in our society' are just wet.

But what have all these pious thoughts got to do with the issues of the day - essay-writing and last minute swotting? Clearly, preparations for the end of the academic year are a single-minded business, tinged with more than a hint of competition. If you are not a Christian, it would be interesting to see the extent to which your Christian friends are prepared to place the good of others before their own even at this time of year. And if you are a Christian .... well, it's a challenge, isn't it?

Contributed by D.V.  
for the A.U. Chaplaincy

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