

/ISSUE 1 /VOLUME 61

Tharunka.

unsw student magazine



**LAUREN WALLACE, NED HIRST, BRENDAN BYRON,
CLAIRE CATACOUZINOS, ELIZABETH READ, JACK
RIISFELDT, BRIDGET CAMA, ADRIAN ROOK, JORDAN
DALY, NICK GEROVISALIS, AADIL ANSAREEN,
SRESTHA MUZUMDER, JENI ROWHER, ROBER
GOODEN, AYM RANDY, ADRIAN PEDIC, CAMERON
REDDIN, JESS RULE, OLIVER MOORE.**

Cover Art: Jess Rule (Fine Arts, UNSW Art & Design)

www.tharunka.arc.unsw.edu.au

Tharunka acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which the University now stands.

Tharunka is published periodically by Arc @ UNSW. The views expressed herein are not necessarily the views of Arc, the Representative Council, or the Tharunka editing team.

/Contents

3 EDITORS LETTER

4 AGONY IBIS

5 NEWS

7 PORTRAIT OF A VC

10 DOUBLE DUTCH IRISH SANDWICH

11 LEFT VS RIGHT

13 GOOD MUSLIMS BAD MUSLIMS

15 GROWING UP BROWN

18 MOTION PICTURES

23 BIRD SHIT BATSHIT

25 NEWS WORLD - WORLD NEWS

27 THE VANCOUVER MANOUVER

28 DISCOURSE ON THE BASIS AND ORIGIN OF FEELINGS

29 PUT YOUR HANDS UP FOR DETROIT

30 REVIEWS

31 SRC/PGC REPORTS

36 CANVASING RANDWICK (PATRICIA REID)

/Editors Letter

3



What is Tharunka?

Sixty-two years ago, a note was placed in the pages of a new paper entitled In Appreciation.

“It is with appreciation that we acknowledge our debt to Australia’s Aborigines, from whom the name Tharunka is borrowed. Tharunka means message stick.

“We hope that this journal will be a messenger for all students and that it will provide a basis for contact and bring students together.”

In 2015, we hope to maintain that tradition.

We see Tharunka as the village square. It’s the café in the shade where our community can meet and chat about the world. Sometimes it can be a soapbox about issues we care about. Sometimes it can be the water cooler, where we trade jokes and stories.

Above all, we want Tharunka to be a podium for our community, for our interests as students, and for you. We don’t want to just inform you from on high, or entertain ourselves via mass media. We want to share your opinions, reflect your identities, and, if we’re very lucky, help you use our podium to achieve change.

And to do that, we need you to write for us. Our email address is tharunka@arc.unsw.edu.au. Get in touch if you’re interested. Even if you’re not: enjoy the paper. We’ve interviewed the new VC, we’ve covered Federal and student affairs, and we’ve got reviews in the back.

Until next time,

Brendan, Ned, and Lauren

Hi Elizabeth!
Hi Zac!

What are your study details?
I’m a Second Year Medical Student.

What can we expect to see from you in Tharunka?

Generally, I’ll be writing satirical pieces. I can’t say much more. Also, I am on the train to Newcastle.

Such mystique. Much wow. Fair enough. The train to Newcastle is agonizing. Best of luck I wish for you. What’s your fondest memory of O-Week?
I don’t have many memories because it is O-Week.

Anything you are looking forward to?
The free stress balls.

Do you prefer:
Spotify or Itunes? Spotify.
Sugar or Salt? Salt.
Barristers or Baristas? Baristas. That’s a vague one?
Sand or snow? Sand.
Pen or keyboard? Pen.
Mullets or mullets? As in fish or haircut? They are pretty much on par. Actually, no, look, I prefer the haircut. It’s way more familiar to me.

Can you spell creativity any way that you want?
HmMMM. No. There is one way. That’s the nature of the English language. Do you want me to spell it for you?

No, no. It’s something I need to figure out for myself. See you at O-Week!

Interviews captured by Zac Bush

/Agony Ibis



Jack Riisfeldt

G'day Jack.
G'day Zac.

Now that's all out of the way, let's get into the grilling. What's your degree, and how far gone are you?
Fourth Year of Arts/Law. I major in English.

Writing for Tharunka, I hear?

Yes sir. This issue I'm writing about the reverse culture shock experienced by those who return from an overseas exchange – a culture shock that I am experiencing first hand having just returned from Canada this week.

Bonza stuff – I'm in the same boat and I can't wait to read it. Onto a different sort of exchange now. How would you describe your first kiss?

Ah. Hmmm. All over the place.

Oh. Now for some more tongue in cheek, with a bit of word association.

Donkey. Kong.

Toenail. Clippers.

Cooked. Baked.

Tharunka. Paper.

Oats. Meals?

Spill. Drinks. Wonderfully apolitical Jack.

Roundhouse. Beers.

What are you most looking forward to this O-Week?

O-Week is a brilliant time to meet new people and make new friends. It's full of all round good vibes.

That's beautiful Jack. See you there for a chitchat and beverage.

Dear Agony Ibis,
I always black out when I'm drunk and can never remember the night before. Usually it's alright, but lately I've started waking up with awkward bruises, different haircuts, and literally hundreds of dollars' worth of McDonalds fries. What do I do???? This week is O-Week and I'm worried even worse things will happen to me!
From,
Anxiously Wasted

Dear Anxiously Wasted,

I totally understand. As an Ibis who spends the majority of my day rooting through garbage bins and scaring people with my huge fucking beak, the concept of moderation remains outside the ability of my tiny brain, and quite possibly yours too.**

If there's something I've learnt from constantly finding copies of 'The Secret' in the bins of Sydney, it is that you should not change yourself to suit the world. Be confident in your Secretions and change the world to suit you.

The point that I am getting at is that, quite simply, drinking less is not, and never will be, the answer. The idea of 'less' is merely a subjective and arbitrary quality that discounts the fleetingness of human existence in an uncaring, ever expanding universe.

What you should do, instead, is as your gut tells you! Follow your most primal instincts and build a complex nest/bodysuit hybrid made of twigs, mud, cigarette butts and twigs. Then, carefully weave a pocket for a camera or some such instrument to record your every public urination, awkward Uber ride and long conversation consisting of only "I love you!" "No, I love you!"

You'll have all the fun of knowing what you did, without having to take any responsibility for your actions.

May you always know where those weird mid-calf bruises come from,

Agony Ibis

**We are all Ibis in the flock of Life, winging gracefully to the Great Trashpile of Enlightenment.

/The Spill

Ned Hirst

At ten o'clock on the morning of the failed vote for a leadership spill, Philip Ruddock is asleep in the House of Representatives. I'm here to soak up the excitement of Liberal party in-fighting, but this serves as a brutal reminder that politics is rarely a spectator sport. This is a boxing match that takes place behind closed doors, affording audiences the replacement entertainment of the 71-year-old referee sleep an hour later. Perhaps the excitement of the morning has proved too much for Ruddock, or perhaps he is simply bored by Fiona Scott's (admittedly rather long) speech extolling the benefits of a new partnership signed between UWS and Beijing University. When he suddenly jolts out of his mid-morning stupor, he sheepishly rises and exits quietly. Before he leaves, he shares a knowing grin and wave with Speaker Bronwyn Bishop. It's a telling moment. Two aging conservative warriors are safe in the knowledge that their guy remains in the top job, at least for now.

The circus grinds on, but it's hardly business as usual for Abbott. He has to accept that one of two unpalatable options is true: either some of his Cabinet colleagues have turned on him (six, confidently declares the Daily Telegraph), or 39 of the remaining 66 members of caucus have lost faith. The Labor Party are in very high spirits during Question Time, much to the chagrin of Bronwyn Bishop and to the visibly embarrassed Turnbull. Abbott spends most of his time talking about packages – not the kind memorably invoked by Jacqui Lambie. If it sounds like I'm skimping on the detail, I'm really not. No-one knows what these policies actually are, presumably including the PM. "Good government starts today," he says, but good government starts therefore from a seemingly intractable mess. Fee deregulation and the GP co-payment are locked in the Senate and the policy reset is confused. Where does he go? To whom does he turn? I have a palpable sense that what is happening in the chamber bears no resemblance to reality, scarcely even to a political reality. This is politics with no subject but itself, feeding and thriving on its own solipsistic existence. The choice between Turnbull and Abbott was never, so far as we know, about policy so much as it was about public perception, but perception of what the government seems to have forgotten.

/Funding Cuts to Hurt Indigenous Students

Bridget Cama

Since its introduction in 1993, ITAS has been an essential academic support service for Indigenous students, assisting in closing the gap in tertiary education.

For over 20 years the Federal government has distributed funding based on the number of Indigenous students enrolled at universities, allowing for a maximum of 2 hours per week per subject of registered tutoring.

However, recent changes mean that ITAS funding will now becoming a part of a broader "Indigenous Advancement Strategy." This means that universities and their Indigenous Centres will engage in a competitive grant process that has left them under extreme pressure. Smaller, less competitive institutions may lose out on funding all together – this means that small and regional Indigenous students, already more disadvantaged when it comes to access to services, may have to face university with little or no support at all.

The government claims this system will be a new, more flexible initiative, with funding lasting for longer periods. Others, however, are asking whether this will actually be the case. While the new model allows for up to three years of program funding, what happens after that is unclear. It remains possible that ITAS simply shut down, or be subsumed into a central pool of funding.

And this is a serious problem for indigenous students. If ITAS allocated funding is grouped in the broader "Indigenous Advancement Strategy," funding may be assigned to issues and projects that have nothing to do with Indigenous Tertiary Education students.

Educational institutions are skeptical as to whether they are able to obtain the full amount of funding per student that ITAS used to guarantee.

But it is students who should be most concerned of all. My question is, why fix something that isn't broken? Every indigenous student should have this simple opportunity and access to tutoring: two hours per subject per week with a registered tutor.

The effect of these uncertainties with ITAS funding, and the potential phasing out of the scheme, will mean devastating results for the gap in education between indigenous and non-indigenous students. If ITAS funding goes, that gap will grow wider than ever.



/German Anti-Immigration Leader Poses as Hitler

Oliver Moore

In a lesson for all far-right political leaders seeking to gain mainstream credibility, Lutz Bachmann, the founder of the growing German anti-immigration movement 'Pegida', has demonstrated that it is almost always a bad idea to post a photo of yourself on Facebook posing as Hitler. Even the most committed xenophobes amongst his former acolytes are now distancing themselves from Lutz Bachmann, with his spectacular act of self-sabotage ranking as one of the finest acts of political seppuku this reporter has ever seen.

For a nation once told by their Chancellor Angela Merkel that multiculturalism had "utterly failed", the German people have proved to be remarkably resilient to the attempts of extremist groups to sow discord in a peaceful society. That changed with the recent rise of anti-Islamic sentiment linked with the recently formed group Pegida, whose German acronym describes their identity as 'Patriotic Europeans against the Islamisation of the West'. Activist Bachmann founded the group in October 2014, and since then, tens of thousands of protesters have protested in the streets of Dresden, Leipzig, Munich and Hanover.

Pegida's manifesto claims that the organization exists for the purpose of defending Germany's Judeo-Christian traditions, and preventing further Islamic immigration. Their broad church of supporters ranges from mainstream conservatives to genuine neo-Nazi hate groups.

Pegida's leaders have attempted to distance themselves from the more extreme elements that attend their protests. However, the choice of facial hair by Mr Bachmann in his ill-judged selfie immediately creates a visual link to a tragic period of Germany's past, making it much harder to plead innocent to any links with Nazism.

Lya Cuellar, a Political Science student from El Salvador studying as a foreign student in Berlin, gave this assessment of racism in German society. "Germans are born knowing that it's wrong to be a racist and right-wing crazy skinhead; hicks from Rostock or Magdeburg are the enemy. A dangerous aspect of Pegida is that it's offering 'decent' middle-class citizens a less radical looking way of unleashing their racist impulses. They don't feel like racists, they don't relate to the low-class neo-Nazis at all; they simply claim to be anti-establishment."

Whether the middle class continue to associate themselves with the movement after recent events will become clear in the next few weeks. Pegida may have lost its original leader with the disgrace of its unfortunately mustachioed founder, but like a racist hydra, the movement is unlikely to die simply from the loss of one of its heads. Nonetheless, German unity in the face of divisive rhetoric is likely to be enhanced by any reminder of the spectre of the nation's Nazi past, and Mr Bachmann seems to be destined to fade to irrelevance.

NUS NatCon

The annual conference of the National Union of Students was held in early December, and saw campus concerns raised on a national stage. Debates were held on a variety of fronts, including the size of NUS affiliation contributions, declining Union revenue and the role of protests versus lobbying in achieving change.

In this turbulent and factionalised environment, controversial constitutional reforms were passed that reprioritised money away from paying intersectional portfolios like Indigenous, Ethno-cultural, and International towards larger education campaigns.

New Vice Chancellor Begins Term

Dr Ian Jacobs from the University of Manchester started his term as VC and President of the University of New South Wales on February 1.

SRC Disabilities Officer Resigns

Just two months into her term, Students with Disabilities officer Rachel Lobo has resigned following disputes with Arc and the Student Representative Council.

As there was no runner-up in the election, the Student Representative Council is due to appoint a replacement at the next SRC meeting, due in the first week of March. Students with disabilities who are passionate about disability issues have until March 6 to apply, and are encouraged to email their resumes and cover letters to Billy Bruffey at srepresent@arc.unsw.edu.au

Enrolment Changes Now in Effect

Changes to withdrawal procedures pushed through by Chancellery last year are now in effect.

This means that if you drop out of a course after the 31st of March, it will appear on your transcript, whether or not you have applied for withdrawal without academic failure.

Unlike in previous years, when permitted withdrawals for medical reasons or exceptional circumstances disappear from your official record, this year will see those courses marked PW, or Permitted Withdrawal.

/Portrait of a VC

7

Ned Hirst

Newly appointed Vice Chancellor Ian Jacobs talks deregulation and his vision for UNSW

/So for those students who aren't familiar with your background, you were dean of the University of Manchester Medicine Faculty as well as Vice President of the University and you also led a research team investigating early diagnoses of ovarian cancer and chaired the Uganda Women's Health Initiative which you also established. It's a big change to Vice-Chancellor here.

A little bit, but I like to think that all the things I've done in my career are focussed on helping people perform at their optimum and achieve the best they can, so as to make a difference to other peoples' lives. Really, everything I've done has led to this role. I started off training as a doctor because I thought personally I could make a difference to people's lives and from there started leading clinical teams, from there big research teams, then Dean of a faculty of medicine, to the Vice President of Manchester University. So it's not a massive change in focus, but the scale of the responsibility here is larger.

/Why UNSW? Why here?

First of all, you don't have to look hard at UNSW to realise this is a great university. It's innovative, it's dynamic, it's got great infrastructure. When you stand on the campus at the top of the mall and look down, it's really exciting. I thought this is a vista of what education and research can be for the future. It's been well-run in terms of finance and administrative organisation. Secondly, Australia. It's an exciting country, a country with great resources, it's still young and open to new ideas in many ways. I believe in the power of education and research to change people's lives and this seemed an opportunity second-to-none to advance that.

/Obviously the big comparison students will be making is between you and Fred Hilmer. Where did you think Hilmer did well, and where would you try and differentiate yourself in terms of style?

I'll leave it to others to decide in terms of style. Fred's taken the university a huge way. If you walk around the campus a lot of development has happened in Fred's tenure, the finances have come a long way, there have been advances in research, an increase in the number of students. My task is to maintain the trajectory. I will have a very strong people focus. I come from a medical background, Fred came from a business background. I don't know whether people will notice a difference.

/You've obviously started on a consultation process, according to that process, what are the challenges that UNSW will face in the next few years?

Well, Fred has left the university in a great place but the challenges are very serious. What is the right balance between public support for universities and private individual support? I've been asking where Sydney ranks in the best cities in the world. You'd certainly put it in the top 10. Most I've asked put it in the top 5. Why wouldn't Australia and Sydney have a university in the top 10 in the world? So there's a challenge to Australian society to see how far they want their universities to go. The other constraint we have is the estate. The UNSW rectangle with the extra bits it has. It's vibrant and exciting but it's pushed to boiling point. Where can you build?

/How many racecourses does Sydney need?

Well, those discussions are on-going.

/Jesus.

Be careful with that one.

/Obviously the big question in higher education in Australia is fee deregulation. You've said you're in "listening and learning mode." What have you heard, what have you learnt?

It's a difficult debate. We need to find a way of funding universities properly so they're globally competitive. A reasonable question is how much of university education is a private good? At the moment it's about 60% public investment, 40% students. The government wants it to go the other way, 40-60. I think there's a significant public and private benefit so maybe it should be about 50-50. I certainly wouldn't want to go the way of the UK system where essentially all fees are paid by students through a loan system. My second principle is that I am absolutely passionate about ensuring all students of ability can get a high quality education regardless of their background, their ethnic background, their indigenous background, gender, socio-economic group. I feel very strongly about that. So then, given all that, given that we want more funding, what balance between public and private investment are we going to have? We've reached an impasse and that's where I'm listening. Our university made a decision that it supports fee deregulation, but the debate is on-going and to a large extent whether it happens now it's out of our hands.

/And if it comes down to a choice between developing a university system such as an Australian Ivy League which allows Sydney to have one or even two universities in the top 10, top 20 in the world but it's harder for people of lower backgrounds to gain access to those universities as is the case in America?

I don't think that is a necessary consequence of having a great university but that of course is the challenge for all of us. I don't believe a great university has access limited to people from privileged backgrounds. Why have high-performing – I don't want to use the word elite, I'm certainly not interested in elitism – universities? It's because of everything a great university can contribute to society, to the way people think, to the skills people have, to economic prosperity. One of the things that Australia is not doing as well as it might is knowledge transfer. Everyone's telling us that Australia needs to diversify its economy and this is where UNSW and other great universities can be in the lead.



/You mentioned the UK experience. The fees there weren't fully deregulated, the cap was approximately tripled I think. What a lot of people have said about Australia if deregulation does happen is that there will be stratification between the Group of Eight universities on the one hand and other universities on the other. In the UK though, all universities moved towards the highest cap level.

It's fascinating to reflect on what happened in then UK. We essentially went from total public funding, to £3000 to £9000 fees. I'm the first person in my family who went to university. I went to a very good school where you only paid based on your parents' income then I got into Cambridge and got a Cambridge education for nothing. Then medical school again for no fee. To see that reversed and my children paying all of their fees, I think things have swung too far in the other direction. Interestingly, the percentage of lower socioeconomic students in the UK has increased so the £9000 fees haven't put them off. But the proposal in Australia is different and under deregulation the scale of the increase could potentially be more. So there is the potential for students to incur very large debts at 18 and one would want to avoid a risk of discouraging students from disadvantaged backgrounds. There are different ways these problems could be handled but it's too early for me to be pontificating about that.

“

I certainly wouldn't

want to go the way

of the UK system”

/The worst case scenario for the university obviously is for fee deregulation to be blocked but the government to go through with funding cuts. Students are worried about cuts to their courses, and cuts to staffing numbers. Are these probable in the future?

I think that the people who have it in their power to resolve this fundamentally do care about universities and the education of the next generation. I think we will find a solution. It's possible deregulation could happen. It's possible we will get a temporary solution to ensure that there is funding whilst the political discussions continue.

/You said a temporary solution. Do you think fee deregulation is inevitable?

We have to find a way to fund universities to a substantial level. Surely everyone realises it's not in Australia's education to dumb down our universities so we need to find funding. If it's not possible to find the funding from student fees, we could be hit by cuts to research funding. We need a vibrant higher education sector. Research helps students, because top research universities have the best teaching and also when the prestige of the university increases that's good for students in the job market.

/What is your perspective on the relationship between universities and fossil fuels?

My starting point on this is it's a massive issue for mankind. UNSW takes this really seriously as reflected in our research activity to find renewable energy sources. The university council discussed this and made a decision not to adjust its investment portfolio, and I respect and support that decision. This not an issue, though, that is going to disappear from our discussion forums. We have to face the fact that right now the Australian economy and the global economy is dependent on fossil fuels and we need to be encouraging as quickly as possible the adoption of alternative sources. UNSW can help lead the way forward through research. That is my position right now.

/And what, broadly, is your strategic vision for UNSW?

Step one is engagement, with student and staff. I want to talk to student leadership, but the students beyond that as well. You'll see me out and about the campus, I think it's really important to be informed. Secondly, there is a consultation process for the UNSW 2015-25 strategy. This is structured around major strategic priorities. It won't be a top down strategy, there is plenty of room for bottom up ideas. There are three major headings, which won't surprise you: academic excellence, social engagement and global impact. Academic excellence; I'm deliberately not separating at the highest level research and teaching because I believe they go together. How do we personalise education? This can't be about dumbing down quality. At the same time we need to continue improving our research output and quality. Social engagement; three examples. Making UNSW a global forum for debate, discussion, and policy formulation on the grand challenges for society. Enhancing equality in student entry and staff progression but also pushing for equality throughout Australian society. Increasing the role of universities in knowledge transfer and wealth creation. And third, global impact. With international students maximising the role of UNSW in educating people from across the world. We're already in the top five in terms of numbers. The second thing in terms of global impact is partnerships. I'm interested in three or four serious, well-defined university partnerships, one in Europe, one in Asia, one in America, and one in Africa, with benefits for students and staff. The third thing is the developing world. A university like this can, and should, make a big impact in the developing world. These are high-level headings and everyone is welcome to the discussion. [There will be a website through which students can contribute their ideas under these broad headings.]

/Thank you, Professor Jacobs.



/Double Dutch Irish Sandwich

Adrian Rook

The Double Irish with a Dutch sandwich sounds like something you would expect to see on the blackboard menu of a greasy late night burger chain. In fact, it refers to one of the methods used by top multi-national companies like Apple and Google, to avoid paying tax in a number of countries around the world. It may come as a surprise to some that the many of the largest corporate profit earners in Australia are not paying company tax here – though the more cynical among us will probably be unsurprised. So the double Irish with a Dutch sandwich is a method of tax avoidance, which unlike tax evasion, is not outside of the law. In simple terms, it describes the method that multi-national corporations use to transfer profits from one country – with a higher tax rate – to another, with a lower tax rate. For example, if the corporate tax rate in Ireland is lower than it is in Australia, a company will shift its Australian profits to Ireland in order to avoid paying a higher rate of tax. It works like this. Company A, the global leader in personal electronic devices, sells products in every country you could name. Australian consumers will buy the Chinese made gadgets from a subsidiary company based in Ireland. The Irish company that receives the sales revenue from Australians, pays royalties to a Dutch subsidiary company that owns Company A's intellectual property rights (trademarks, patents, copyrights). In an astonishing coincidence, the value of the royalties paid by Company A's subsidiary in Ireland to its subsidiary in the Netherlands happens to be roughly the same as the taxable income that was made on Company A's Australian sales. So Company A has moved the profit on its Australian sales from Australia to Ireland to the Netherlands. The next step is to take advantage of agreements that make capital transfers within European Union countries tax free. The Dutch subsidiary then makes a capital transfer to a second Irish subsidiary of Company A. Under Irish tax law, a company is 'managed' by an overseas firm is only required to pay tax in that overseas jurisdiction. The second Irish company is 'managed' by yet another subsidiary of Company A in the Cayman Islands, or some other tax haven. In a repeat of the astonishing coincidence above, the value of the management services provided by Company A's subsidiary in the tax haven is again equivalent to the taxable income from the Australian sales paid as royalties from Ireland to the Netherlands. And so we get the double Irish with Dutch sandwich

– a round robin of payments between two Irish companies with a Dutch company in the middle, far away from Australia where the profits were made and far more costly for Australians than a late night stop at the greasy burger joint. If it sounds farcical, that's because it is. Companies employing this – and other like tax avoidance strategies – have no real connection with Ireland, the Netherlands, and whatever offshore tax haven is employed, other than to avoid company tax. And not surprisingly, it's a huge problem, from both an economic and moral perspective. In terms of the economy, the declining value of our chief exports, iron ore and coal, is making the debt hangover from the global financial crisis worse. The Government needs additional revenue to return its budget to surplus. Instead of attempting to get it from multi-national companies, we got the now infamous Hockey budget which attempted to extract additional revenue from families with measures like the fuel excise levy, GP co-payments, and my personal favourite, the 'Temporary Budget Repair Levy'. At the same time, the government flouted the welfare safety net, with policies such as the 6 month waiting period for Australians under the age of thirty to receive unemployment payments. These measures were rightly seen by the overwhelming majority of us as placing the heaviest burden the most vulnerable in society. They were simply unfair. If the government is looking to find additional revenue, cracking down on schemes which make paying tax optional for the most profitable companies on the planet be a good place to start. Instead, the government has quietly shelved discussion around cracking down on multi-national tax avoidance.

Jordan Daly

It's really simple; penalty rates are compensation for time away from friends and family or otherwise unsociable or inconvenient hours. The majority of the Australian working population work 9-5 jobs that allow them to spend time with the people they want and to relax on the weekend. Those that don't work those jobs get a bit of extra money to justify abnormal hours. It's the same reason we don't have the grand final on a Tuesday, schools don't open on Sundays, or a salaried accountant gets overtime for staying back on the weekend during tax-time.

The thing about penalty rates is that they benefit both businesses and workers; employees don't miss out because penalty rates ensure that jobs are of a high quality and their standards of living don't slip. It would be fantastic if a small business owner could hire more employees, but not if that meant sacrificing said employee's

years shorter than our "normal" counterparts.

At the end of the day, we need to strike a balance between adequate compensation for workers and the profits of all businesses and the current awards system achieves that. Penalty rates are as much a cost of business as wages, superannuation or insurance; if your business can't turn a profit and adequately compensate its employees, it's a bad business. If time-and-a-half or double-time seems unreasonable for you, try working a few Sunday evenings away from your family or past midnight on a Saturday when your mates are out.

LEFT V

quality of life. Conversely, businesses are able to encourage employees to come into work based on additional compensation for their time. Those complaining about "excessive" penalties discount the fact that this would attract a higher calibre of worker.

Not just that, but let's consider regional Australia. Rural workers earn \$5300 less per annum than workers in cities (on average), and abolishing penalty rates would disproportionately affect them. According to a study by the McKell Institute, denying rural workers their penalty rates would reduce their annual wages by up to 16.5%. Retail workers alone make up around 12% of the workforce in regional Australia so this would have significant flow-on effects upon the area, with a massive loss of disposable income and a vicious circle of collapsing demand for local businesses.

This applies to Sydney too; the extra money from penalty rates tends to be spent right back into the economy, stimulating it; if this additional income went into the pockets of business-owners, would it be as effectively spent, if at all? Would they hire more workers if their labour cost was lower? Maybe, but they'd suffer from reduced demand for their business as consumer incomes dry up. Let's not just consider the retail and hospitality industries; what about ambos, police, firemen? Are they expected to put up with incredibly stressful work outside of normal hours without compensation? Moreover, penalty rates make life a bit easier for shift workers, especially considering we suffer from sleep deprivation, lower-than-average serotonin levels and a lifespan up to four

Nick's Response

One thing Jordan didn't address above is the other economic benefits of increased wages. Unfortunately, the point is a non-starter. Employees don't have some comparative privilege over employers in terms of demand. It's the 'broken window' fallacy - there is nothing to suggest that the employee would more productively utilise the surplus income than the employer.

Furthermore, given that most evidence would suggest that a cut in penalty rates would be coupled with increased employment, his reduced demand argument strikes another empty note: an increase to the number of people employed would be far more likely to stimulate demand than marginal increases in disposable income. Yet, this commonsense seems to underpin his piece's key shortfall - the failure to realise that while penalty rates may make the life of the worker marginally better in the interim, it's little comfort to those locked out, not just from double time, but employment altogether.

Nick Gerovialis

An important learning from the recent unexpected result in the Queensland State election is that reform is hard. The perfect storm of the 24/7 media cycle and increasingly oppositional politicking make even the most worthwhile reforms difficult to sell to an increasingly self-interested populous. Perhaps the perfect example is the LNP's controversial plan to lease assets in an attempt to both pay down debt, whilst also investing in new productive assets. A highly similar package being proposed by NSW Liberal Premier Mike Baird has been lauded by ex-Labor Prime Minister, Paul Keating, while in Queensland, unheralded, and underwhelming opposition leader, Anastasia Palaszczuk, has risen to power fiercely opposing the Newman government's reforms.

Workplace relations has long been an area where the same kneejerk negativity and fear mongering has dissuaded governments from pursuing worthwhile reforms. Those brave

However, far from pure pragmatism, one of the most important rationales for weekend penalty rates has typically been that they compensate people for working at times that are asocial. This was particularly stressed by the Shop Distributive & Allied Employees Association. Yet, this reasoning is unpersuasive in contemporary Australia. No longer is the average person attending church on a Sunday morning; nor is socialising purely a matter for weekends. We live in a 24/7 economy. The perception of 'normal' trading hours is not as it once was. Similarly, for many workers, it is perfectly 'normal' to work weekends, in order to give them access to activities at other times of the week.

In the absence, therefore, of any coherent conceptual or practical rationale for penalty rates, the true pro-worker policy is undoubtedly one which best facilitates employment, whilst enabling businesses the fair opportunity to compete and survive.

SRRIGHT

enough to try have typically faced the full wrath of heavy-handed union campaigns, exploiting the electoral poison that is the ghost of John Howard's WorkChoices reform. Only recently, with even the announcement of a productivity commission inquiry into workplace relations - a worthy endeavour given Australia's lacklustre standing on the metric of productivity - the government has quickly been forced to fend off suggestions it is resurrecting Howard's doomed reforms.

Nevertheless, in spite of the inevitable difficulties in selling reform, governments must face up to critical issues, such as our unfair and punitive penalty rates. Despite modest reductions in some sectors last year, Sunday penalty rates for retailers remain at double time, or 100 per cent. As the Australian Retailers Association has highlighted, the effect of this on some businesses is so severe as to make it simply unrealistic to open on these days. In other cases, penalties prevent businesses from hiring additional workers.

In the first instance, these impacts would seem to counteract one of the ostensible rationales underpinning penalty rates: the welfare of low-skilled workers. By disincentivising businesses from taking on extra workers, the award stands to benefit those already in employment, while failing to account for those which rates lock out.

Jordan's Response:

More jobs! Why didn't we think of it before? While we're at it, let's abolish compulsory superannuation, annual leave and workers' compensation insurance. These are all costs to doing business. Why are they any less necessary than penalty rates? While we're at it, let's slash wages, so we can hire thousands of people for a few dollars an hour. Unfortunately for Nick, demand for employment is demand for the work employees do; if a café needs a barista and a cashier, they'll hire them. If business picked up, they'd spend more at said café and be able to hire more workers at a decent rate and compensate them for unsociable hours adequately. Everyone benefits from greater aggregate demand from high wages.

On the topic of Australia's "lacklustre" productivity growth, labour productivity continues to grow while capital productivity is the one that is stagnating, according to the ABS. If only we had some sort of government investment in top-notch internet infrastructure to make up for it.

/Good Muslims Bad Muslims

13

By Aadil Ansareen

With Islamic terrorism in the news, thanks to the Charlie Hebdo incident among others, Aadil Ansareen, President of the UNSW Islamic Awareness Forum, is sick of the narrative being oversimplified.

Here's the story we keep hearing: there are two types of Muslims. There's the good, moderate Muslim. He's peaceful and integrated, an upholder of free speech, women's rights, democracy and so on, and people like this have a place in our society.

And then there's the bad, extremist Muslim: the violent, intolerant misogynist who wants to force Sharia law on all peoples. These are the type you'd find in the "ISIS evil death cult", using the words of our Prime Minister - and it goes without saying: they need to be exterminated.

The story goes that by some mysterious process, usually involving the Internet and

some radical interpretation of Islamic texts, any Muslim can be transformed into an evil extremist.

In this tale, the problem then lies with Muslims and their Scripture. It falls upon good Muslims - the 99.9% who have interpreted Islam 'right' - to make it very clear that terrorism is not Islam, and must condemn Muslims every time they do something wrong.

You're either good or bad, so even saying nothing at all is considered 'tacit support'.

Despite roughly having the plot of a Marvel film, this is more or less the narrative pushed by the government and mainstream media

in explaining terrorist attacks. Devoid of any historical or political context, it places the blame squarely on Islam and allows Western powers to escape any responsibility.

In reality, the causal factors are far more complex. Take the case of the Paris attackers: many domestic factors came together to create the toxic anti-Islamic environment in France. Not just inflammatory cartoons, but constant media vilification. Not just the banning of the Burqa, but discrimination in employment, protests against Islam, and physical assaults on both people and mosques.

The words of the attackers themselves should also be considered: Coulibaly justified his

attack following French military efforts against Muslims in Syria, Iraq and Mali. And this justification follows a long pattern of extremists who claim they're motivated by the military actions of Western powers.

They don't see themselves as fighting against freedom of speech or democracy. They're fighting against the people who are responsible for half a million dead children in Iraq, and the indiscriminate shelling of women and children in Gaza. They see the cruise missiles, cluster bombs and drone strikes which destroy entire villages and families within them. They see Abu Ghraib, Guantanamo Bay, and the CIA torture reports.

Going further back, they see the mess created by Western colonisation throughout Africa and the Middle-East, and the violence that still echoes from that. They see arbitrary lines like Sykes-Pico - the artificial borders made by Britain and France when they carved up the region after World War One, and the damage these things still cause.

So to make this issue about just some Muslims getting angry over cartoons is completely misleading, even if it's all you hear in the mainstream media. We're forced into those two boxes again: the intolerant extremist Muslims who murder over free speech and the moderate Muslims who need to come forward and condemn them. Instead of causative factors, it's a simple tale of good and evil.

My point is not that ISIS and Boko Haram are justified. They're not. My point is that telling the simple story here in Australia only exacerbates the problem.

Each time our media gives blanket coverage on some act of violence by Muslims - whether it's ISIS, Boko Haram, the Sydney Siege or Paris, or the numerous attacks bound to occur - the narrative is all we hear: these people are extremists who are evil. And our foreign policy gets justified through this false simplification. We're not following America's lead; we're "exterminating the bad guys". Our agencies like ASIO and the AFP aren't just harassing Muslims, cancelling passports without explanation, or making threats if they don't comply - they're raiding evil terrorists.

And so, draconian anti-terror laws are passed without resistance, all but removing the concept of innocent before proven guilty in the name of national security. The mainstream media capitalise on any story which might involve portraying some Muslims as extremists and both major parties do much the same. Even when they gush about moderate Muslims at other times, it's only to set up contrast with the causeless, irrational murderers all Muslims are supposedly one webpage from becoming.

We create our own toxic environment. Muslims feel ostracised from the rest of society, under verbal attack from the media and government, and under literal, physical attack from some parts of the general population.

The real surprise isn't that this atmosphere might lead to attacks on our soil but that there haven't been more. We have a lot to answer for.

/Growing up Brown

15

Srestha Mazumder

Growing up in a brown family means growing up in a household filled with rules and regulations and where your father's word is the last word. My family is the modern brown family. Modern meaning slightly more liberal than a traditional brown family: where the first rule is finishing medical school and where socialising with a person of the opposite gender is outlawed until you're married. At which point you are expected to have sex with him/her. Hence, I consider myself lucky. I can't remember my dad ever explicitly saying "no" or stopping me from doing anything per se. There was always an "it's implied" vibe reigning over our house. Whether it was in regards to my social life or university choices or dating, I was always given some space to make my decisions with the assistance of their ever-present guidance. Unless your brown family has completely left behind their traditions or you sneak out of the house, your social life tends to be pretty restrictive. For me going out with my friends wasn't that simple. It was as if I had put in an application form and was waiting for its approval. The whole process went something along the lines of: asking for permission a week or two before the date, providing them with details of friends who are going, what time I would be leaving the house, catching transport, eating food, coming home, breathing, walking, sitting, living. Once one of the two

authorities had been convinced, I was left to convince the other. I even had to provide them with the numbers of all those who were going just in case I got lost or kidnapped and taken to a far-away land and never made it home by my 10pm sharp curfew. As if I was being stalked, I used to get phone calls every few minutes asking if I was okay and basically alive and breathing. The everyday struggles of an only brown child. I remember coming home from high school every day meant the music on my iPod being interrupted in four to five minute intervals. The walk home from the bus stop was twenty minutes and my dad and mum would both call and make sure I was okay and ask how far I was from home. I guess now that I am in uni it has changed a bit, but not a lot. University has allowed me to gain more freedom in terms of my social life, but even then, the process of even getting into my uni degree wasn't a smooth sail. I remember when it was time to put in our UAC choices, a lot of compromising had to be done. Let's make this clear, every brown kid has an option of three degrees; law, engineering or medicine. On top of this large variety given to us there are invisible gender allocations. If you are a girl, you have to do

medicine. Boys are stuck with an engineering degree. If you can't get into either, do law! I'm studying psychology now but all my life I have, and still now as I am writing this, dream of being a diplomat or at least working as a lawyer. But my parents suggested I should invest my energies in medicine - a more 'realistic' and 'achievable' dream. But I for one have always despised the idea of studying medicine. It was and never will be for me. Although they never said "no", it was implied. So I settled for psychology. A half way point. A compromise that we would both be relatively content with. It was fine initially until the HSC results came out for the class of 2014 and my parents started nagging me again to try for medical school. I never understood why brown parents can be so stubborn about getting their kids to do one of these three degrees. I'm guessing it's a sign of stability, a thought ingrained into their heads by their fathers and grandfathers. A career path that



would always deliver not bread and butter, but a five-course meal every single day. People often say that you meet the love of your life in university. That one person that completes you. Many brown families are against the whole 'falling in love' thing. I never understood why. Arranged marriages are popular and contentious both abroad and here. I have a lot of friends who aren't even allowed to socialise with people of the opposite gender let alone date them. A marriage, to me, is supposed to be a union between two people, cemented and grounded by love, compassion, trust, commitment, protection and the feeling of safety. However to those who are often pushed into arranged marriages, all these feelings have to grow over a period of weeks, months and years. For those who know from the beginning that their only option is an arranged marriage I guess it is something different. I have always wondered how they feel, knowing they will be getting married to someone they only got to know for a few weeks, months if lucky, beforehand. Personally I would not be willing to enter an arranged marriage for the fear of not knowing the person entirely. For all I know

that person could be the spitting image of my worst nightmare. Bollywood seems to have an amazing take on this whole issue. Basically you fall in love, father says no, fight occurs with lots of crying and disowning, and in the end you marry your lover. But in reality, this is hardly the case. Thankfully for me, my parents had a love marriage themselves and thus freed me from this vicious cycle of arranged marriages. It's crazy to think the process and possible scolding's they had to endure to allow for this love marriage to take place. After all, according to my brown community, "you must only fall in love after you are married". In my experience, the majority of brown families don't look favourably upon dating, so for me dating comes with a lot of constraints. A skillful balancing act that I must perform with respect to my culture and traditions and also Western society. Although I am in full liberty to choose the man I want to spend the rest of my life with, I have a checklist I have to mark off for my future husband, given to me by my parents. The boy must be, and I quote every set of brown parents ever; "well educated, from a good family, very smart, must be a doctor, lawyer or engineer, be family orientated, accept your family as

his own, dress well, look good, be over the average Indian height of 5'6". And the list goes on from here, forming itself into more of a massive ingredient list to bake the most perfect chocolate cake. With all its layers of goodness, just stacked upon each other, bursting with your favourite flavours. A customised cake, made only for you. Only with this ingredient list everything needs to be in perfect proportions and must merge together skillfully to form the perfect husband. And once that part is done and dusted, you must keep it a secret from the rest of your brown community for a few years in fear of getting shunned and looked down upon by them. In my opinion, marrying a total stranger should be looked down upon, not knowing and being in love with someone you have to spend the rest of your life with. In the end, growing up brown comes down to how well you can juggle two completely opposite worlds. Trying to keep up with Western society whilst simultaneously respecting and adhering to your traditions becomes a mentally exhausting and complex balancing act. There are always countless things you need to take into consideration before making any decision. In the end, you just need to find that perfect balance between the centuries-old traditions passed down to you by your fathers and forefathers and the new Western society in which you decided to integrate yourself. Will I bring up my kids the same way I was brought up? Probably. After all, growing up brown is the only way of growing I know.

“

***Trying to keep up
with Western society
whilst simultaneously
respecting and adhering
to your traditions
becomes a mentally
exhausting and complex
balancing act***

”



/Motion Pictures

Jeni Rowher (Fine Art, UNSW Art & Design)



Hà Nội (Hanoi)

Braving the chaotic streets of Vietnam's capital, some locals ride their bikes to work, others ride their bikes for work.







Tam Cốc (Three Caves)

Local women row tourists along the Ngô Đồng River, using only their feet. This conveniently leaves their hands free to sell embroidered goods to a captive audience.





Hạ Long Bay (Descending Dragon Bay)

A fellow cruiser attracts two hawkers in row boats selling jewellery. These women spend their days searching for sympathetic tourists on the turquoise waters.



/Bird Shit Batshit

23

Brendan Byron

Nauru is a famous place these days, as a result of ten years of offshore detention which, at its peak, involved twice as many detainees being held there than actual local residents.

Fewer people know that in the 1970s, the island of Nauru – far from being a holding cell for desperate people – had one of the highest living standards of anywhere in the world, thanks to its seemingly inexhaustible supplies of phosphates – specifically, guano.

Guano is the mineral name for what is more commonly known as bird shit. It's one of the most potent natural fertilisers in the world, and by the 1950s, millennia of passing seabirds had plopped down fifteen vertical metres of it onto the island of Nauru. This made it a prized colonial possession in the first half of the 20th Century. And when sovereignty was declared in 1968, the Nauruans celebrated the release of the colonial yoke by strip-mining their newly-independent homeland to the bedrock, netting the 1500 residents of the island roughly \$100 million a year.

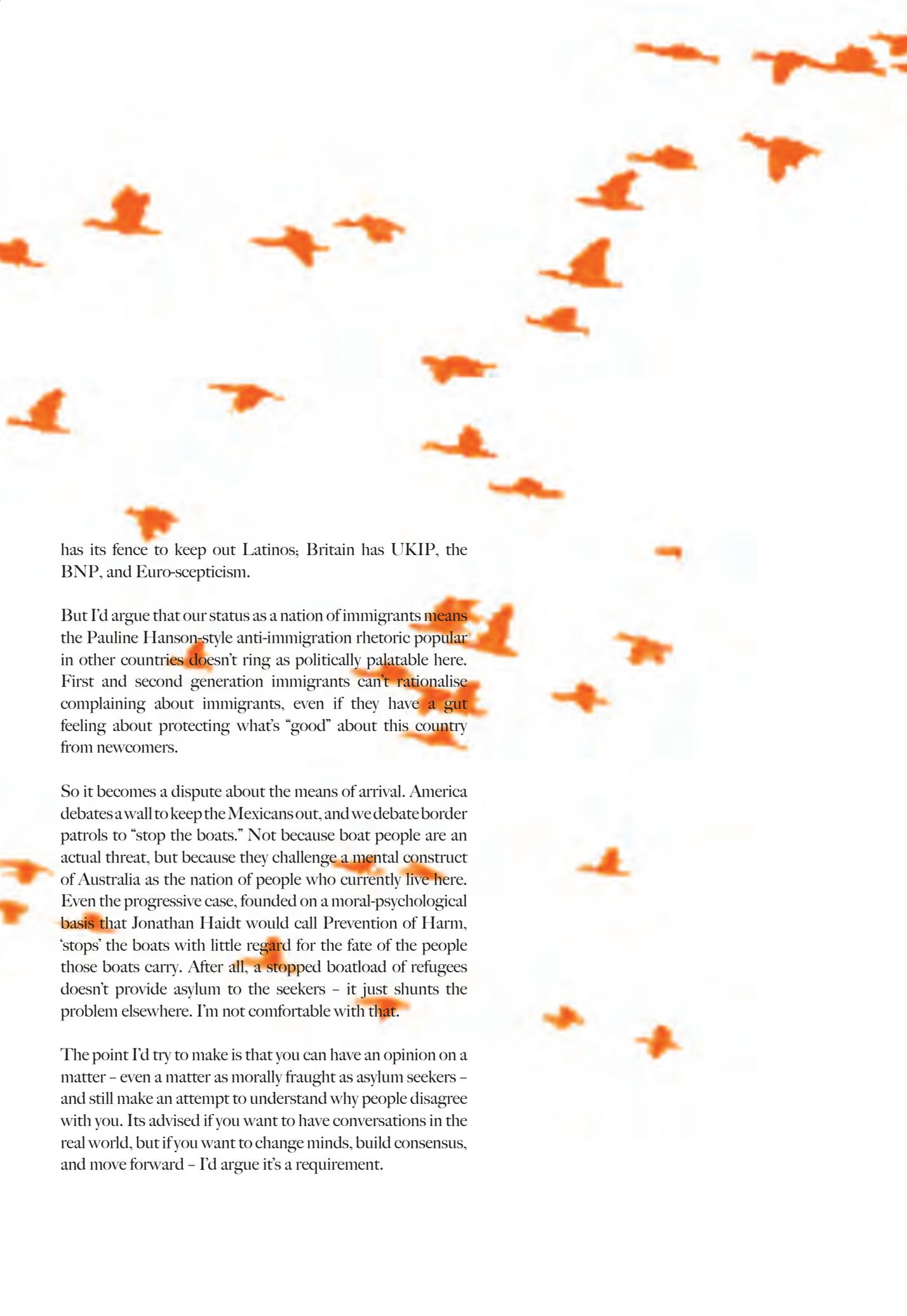
By the early 90s, 80% of Nauru's bird-shit-landmass was mined out, and Nauru was looking at an uncertain future. Their multi-billion dollar savings fund was mostly squandered on a series of desperate economic measures: they invested in real estate, building hotels and skyscrapers across the world, they sued Britain and Australia for exploitative mining (which we kind of do have to cop to.) Most notably, in 1993 they plonked \$4 million dollars on a lavish West End musical called "Leonardo the Musical: A Portrait of Love", which ranks even today as one of the worst financial disasters in London theatrical history.

So for the Republic of Nauru, the 2001 Tampa disaster was an economic godsend. Finally, by becoming Australia's largest destination for imprisoned asylum seekers, they could trade in an economy propped up by bird shit for one supported by bat shit.

I've thought long and hard about why we care so damn much about Asylum seekers. It never made sense to me why we have this aggression toward the desperate. Not because people who disagree with me are irrational or bad people, but because I fundamentally believe they're not, even when they give me every reason to believe otherwise – the refugee debate being a case in point.

One answer was broadly put forward in Jonathan Haidt's 2012 book *The Righteous Mind*. Applying moral psychology to politics, he argued that morally speaking we're "intuitive dogs with rational tails" – and that the tail rarely wags the dog. We feel opinions instinctively and rationalise them logically – not the other way around. This is true no matter where you sit on the political spectrum.

So here's my hypothesis. I invite you to prove it wrong. There is a fundamental emotional principle of protecting the interests of the tribe. I don't endorse it, but it's hard to argue it exists. You can call it patriotism, racism, jingoism, religious or social prejudice – but it amounts to the same "in-group" tribalism and it exists everywhere in the world. In every different country, it has a corresponding public policy response: America



has its fence to keep out Latinos; Britain has UKIP, the BNP, and Euro-scepticism.

But I'd argue that our status as a nation of immigrants means the Pauline Hanson-style anti-immigration rhetoric popular in other countries doesn't ring as politically palatable here. First and second generation immigrants can't rationalise complaining about immigrants, even if they have a gut feeling about protecting what's "good" about this country from newcomers.

So it becomes a dispute about the means of arrival. America debates a wall to keep the Mexicans out, and we debate border patrols to "stop the boats." Not because boat people are an actual threat, but because they challenge a mental construct of Australia as the nation of people who currently live here. Even the progressive case, founded on a moral-psychological basis that Jonathan Haidt would call Prevention of Harm, 'stops' the boats with little regard for the fate of the people those boats carry. After all, a stopped boatload of refugees doesn't provide asylum to the seekers - it just shunts the problem elsewhere. I'm not comfortable with that.

The point I'd try to make is that you can have an opinion on a matter - even a matter as morally fraught as asylum seekers - and still make an attempt to understand why people disagree with you. It's advised if you want to have conversations in the real world, but if you want to change minds, build consensus, and move forward - I'd argue it's a requirement.

/Polio Cures Unvaccinated Child Of Autism

Michael Johnson, 12, was cured of hereditary autism following a severe infection with poliovirus causing poliomyelitis last month.

Despite currently receiving respiratory support due to acute paralysis, his parents have noted a significant improvement in his ability to interact socially, as well as a decrease in stereotypy and compulsive behaviour.

Although the disease's spread to the muscles of his head, neck and diaphragm rendered it difficult for him to give us a quote, Tharunka was assured by Michael's parents Zelda and Collin that Michael was enjoying his new found mental health and even had 'the gift of the gab'.

Zelda, a well known homeopath in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, declined vaccination for Michael as a child on the basis of Jenny McCarthy's article alongside her March 2000 appearance in Maxim magazine.

Though she says she briefly considered vaccinating Michael following his 2004 diagnosis, scientific evidence of 'double autism' prevented this.

Asked if they would now consider giving Michael either the MMR or Hepatitis shots, Zelda replied that they were waiting to see if a measles infection could cure his alopecia.

/Riot at World Chess Championship.

A riot has broken out at the 2014 World Chess Championship Grand Final in Sochi, Russia following a disagreement between the referee and a spectator. Ms. Johanna Kraslevocheck, 80, used a sharpened rook to shiv Kenneth Howe over a perceived rule violation by reigning champion, Magnus Carlsen, that Mr Howe did not rebuke.

Following the altercation, one of Carlsen's supporters attacked Ms Kraslevocheck, dragging her to the ground and severely injuring her. Several others joined the fray, which resulted in one death and several injuries. Ms. Kraslevocheck suffered a broken hip and shattered jaw.

The match was later won by Viswanathan Anand.

Reading the Stars with Harold Heinmeyer



Capricorn

If attached, in the following weeks you'll have a lot of trouble with your spouse or significant other. They say that it's impossible to make you cum, you say that love is a bad country song without the music. If unattached, keep shaving your legs. The whole point of desire is that you don't know someone well enough to be repulsed by them yet.

Aquarius

The past year has seen you ask some real questions about the military-industrial complex, and you just might find love on the 9th. Anything involving children will prove messy because children are generally less ashamed of their bodies than adults.

Pisces

Sometimes I just lie in bed and cry until I feel human again. Remember, love is a lie you tell each other to fall asleep at night. Hope is just a story you used to tell children.

Aries

Your insatiable bloodlust worsens this month, and watch out around Nancy. She'll be menstruating, but also I don't trust her. There might be a connection there.

Taurus

The next four weeks are a trial for a crime you didn't know you committed. Life's full of mysteries. I mean come on, how many people do you meet and you're like "seriously? No one abandoned you at birth?"

Gemini

Sometimes you lean against the windowpane with your brow furrowed, and you think it should really be called window pain. It's hard being you, no one is going to deny that. Absolutely no one. There's a bounty on your head and mercury is in retrograde. Maybe its time for a new haircut?

Cancer

The week ending with the 25th could well be your downfall. Remember, despair rhymes with en plain air, the technique of painting outside. That doesn't really mean anything, but it probably means something to you. Your whole existence is nonsense.

Leo

You know how tall people often have bad posture and carry themselves like they're apologizing for existing? Well you're not tall but an apology wouldn't go astray. It's so rare to find a man who can admit that he's wrong.

Virgo

New life, growth and change are inevitable synonyms that you grapple with this month. As things live, grow and change, remember to ask yourself: does a playpen keep the good guys in or the bad guys out?

Libra

Sanitary pads are an interesting development in human history. But are you an interesting development in human history? Take time around the 9th to really think about whether your life is worth living.

Scorpio

Oh, you. Feisty, irritable, unbearable Scorpio, you. Just remember that hate is so much more than a four letter word - it's what happens when a man and a woman love each other very much.

Sagittarius

Growing up is hard to do, but it can't be harder than passing a kidney stone. God damn, that shit is rough.

/Publishers Respond to Mockingbird Prequel Announcement

Sending the literary sphere into frenzy, Harper Lee, Pulitzer Prize winning American author and the closest thing to a breathing corpse you are likely to see, is also making waves in the ultra-competitive world of commercial publishing. FollowWing the announcement that it is set to receive a prequel, sales of her modern classic To Kill a Mockingbird have reportedly increased by over 6600%, sending chills down the spine of rival publishers.

With Lee's name predicted to sit atop the best sellers list for the majority of 2015, Thomas Nelson, prominent publisher of the ancient classic The Bible have retaliated swiftly, announcing a sequel more than half a millennium after the publication of the first book. The Bible II: Through the Portal of Time chronicles an alternative, more religiously idyllic society, whilst retaining the visceral themes of the original. This is a reality in which Cosima De Vito wins the original series of Australia Idol because Guy Sebastian went to church instead of auditioning and Shannon Noll was crucified for fingering a horse and marring his beard (Lev 20:15, 19:27).

In the wake of the announcement it seems publishers of The Bible II have remained firmly on the front foot, reminding Lee that the Bible is indifferent to slavery (Lev 25:44-46) and thus in their utopia To Kill a Mockingbird would be more useful as toilet paper. A semi rigor mortis Lee is reportedly slightly agitated by the remarks.

Talks

Solving Sydney's Housing Affordability Crisis

City
Talks
Sydney

Thursday 12 March
6.30pm – 8pm
Lower Town Hall

Leading voices in Sydney's property market discuss solutions for the city's housing crisis.

Steve Cannane hosts a panel including the Grattan Institute, the Committee for Sydney, ACOSS, Westpac, Mirvac and Youth Action.

Free event – Book now
ticketmaster.com.au
or call 136 100

/The Vancouver Maneouver

27

By Jack Riisfeldt

Two days deep and I'm overflowing with nostalgia. It oozes out of me like an impossibly fluorescent tar, pooling around my ankles, rising to my waist. I'm bursting with memory, doing all that I can not to tear apart. I've fed greedily these last six months, indiscriminately wolfing down Vancouver in all its grime and beauty. Now I've found myself in a familiar world with an unfamiliar appetite.

It's not that things haven't changed at home, of course they have. But while my experience was conveniently flanked by international flights, my friends had days like all the rest. They've progressed, but it's subtle and unnerving, like static without white noise. Now I'm a blind man in a ball pit with fingers coated in glad wrap, fumbling with colours I can't see but know to exist. Hell, I can almost feel Admiral Ackbar's squid-y breath sliming the back of my neck, poised for the illusion to shatter.

I figured out some tricky shit on exchange. I've always been more comfortable living in my head; my time away helped me realise that's perfectly okay. I'm not running anymore, so I'm not angry all the goddamn time. That's why coming home is so fucking scary. Because it's not

just a trip, it's my life, and I don't want to lose who I am now in the familiarity of what I knew before. So I'm going to have every conversation again, talk to my friends like strangers and know them like I never did.

A friend said to me, 'exchange is over'. Exchange doesn't just end, it has infected me for life. It's in my colonial oppressors, wherever they are, just outside of London. It's buried deep down the coast, and modestly explicating the strengths and weaknesses of Nelson. Godverdomme! There's too much of it in the Netherlands. When I walk it squelches between my positively phosphorous toes. Whenever you can see I'm not here, I'm there.

That's why you should go on exchange. Let it sink its claws into your mind until it's rooted like some cerebral relic. You'll be covered in wrinkles with a soggy peach for a head before it lets go. It will haunt you forever, and you'll love it for it.

/Discourse on the Origin and Basis of Feelings

Aym Randy

In the beginning, people spent a lot of time thinking and new things happened all the time and they meant something and meaning had a meaning at that time and time was something that people questioned because asking questions means more than just putting a question mark at the end of a series of words and a series of words is much more than just a specific composition of letters meant to impart meaning it's a sentence and a sentence can be something you say to someone or it can be something you do to someone. Like a death sentence.

We live in a world where you can do death to someone else and that's just something that you have to live with. Unless someone does death to you. Then you don't have to live with anything because you aren't alive. Sometimes I wish they would just dig me a grave and let me lie there. Because it's impossible to keep living and not tell the truth because the truth always seems to come out because coming out isn't just something people do when they have to announce themselves because the world is designed to assume a million things about a person before they've opened their mouth. Opening your mouth is sometimes honestly the worst thing you can do, because everyone knows that the mouth is the arsehole of the face. Actually some people don't know that and I guess that's why most conversations make me want to give up.

In conclusion, nothing really gets concluded until death. Orgasm is the foreshadowing of death and probably the only real full stop other than death and literal full stops. And I guess that's the idea behind feelings. Sometimes thinking makes too much sense, so you have a feeling instead which is like a bunch of inarticulate thoughts written in italics in the word document that is your soul.



/Put your hands up for Detroit

29

a lovely city

Adrian Pedic

When you think of St Jerome's Laneway Festival (or just Laneway), there are a multitude of first impressions you could have. If you haven't yet been, maybe it's a solid line-up, or the pictures that flooded Facebook a few weeks ago (that only made you a little jealous). If you have been, then maybe your first impression is of the day itself. Even then, it's hard to settle on any one concrete representation. For me, it was the day I touched Mac DeMarco's butt, but that's a story for another time.

What I'm trying to scratch at is that even though music festivals are a fairly well-known and understood quantity these days, Laneway seems to stand out for a few reasons. Firstly, it's impossible to slap it with a genre label, or its attendees with a culture label. Laneway is distinctly missing its "Soundwave metal heads" or "Stereosonic bros".

The line-up is diverse and acts as a good cross-section between the established heavyweights and the up-and-comers. While it would be adorably naïve of me to say it's a mostly independent selection of artists, that would also be wrong.

Australian psychedelic mango-loving band, is in fact signed to a major label. FKA Twigs is easily beyond the level of indie artist, even if that still seems to be the appeal for some. Future Islands conquered the world last year, and their performance on Letterman went viral and even became a meme. Cultural fringe bands? Doubtful.

Now here's where things get interesting. Take that whole concept, and apply it to the festival itself. Laneway, which began in as a glorified street party in Melbourne, is now held in every major city in Australia, as well as Auckland, Singapore and now Detroit.

It's the decision to hold it in Detroit that seems to be the most interesting one, because it's one that's almost impossible to justify. Just imagine it: your successful music festival is about to take its first excursion into the Land of the Free, and you need to pick a location. Keeping in mind, for its debut in America, you are going to want to make an impression. So New York? Los Angeles? Maybe Las Vegas, with an up-yours to Coachella?

Or Detroit, industrial ghost-town, with the subtle connotations of a wasteland and robocops? It seems insane when you consider the crime rate and poverty of the city. However, with a bit of research and thought, it's actually quite smart.

First of all: Laneway does pride itself on consistently producing line-ups featuring the fresh and hippest artists of the time. In America, where festivals like Coachella reign, what chance does a small show like Laneway have? Instead, take the collection of cool artists, and invite all the cool people to a music festival off the beaten track. It does add some undeniably great 'indie' appeal. But more importantly, it manages to give Laneway its own distinct brand, which is impressive for its first time in the US.

"Detroit is having its rebirth and as Laneway continues to evolve, we can identify with a city that is continuing to evolve as well... It seemed like a great fit and this line-up seals it," said co-founder of Laneway, Danny Rogers, in an interview with MusicFeeds in 2013, when he announced the decision.

It's certainly a valid point, and has some interesting historical precedent to draw upon.

Perhaps the most relevant is that of Seattle in the 1990s. What was Seattle before the grunge culture, and what was it after? I don't know, because who cares about Seattle if it's not the 90s?

Unlike cities like New York, San Francisco and London, where there is a new cultural movement every other generation, cities like Washington DC, Baltimore, Seattle and now Detroit are of interest because they mark a significant expansion of efforts in culture and arts. Rather than depending on the inevitable upswing in major cities, the "rebirth" of Detroit is a concentrated effort by a few individuals, which begins to grow.

Which is why Laneway is a perfect fit for a city that is a growing cultural hub, and why the seemingly insane idea to hold it there begins to make a lot of sense. Now, what's the first thing you think of when you hear Laneway?

/REVIEWS

**Zac Bush 9.5/10 – Suddenly, Last Summer | Sydney Theatre Company |
Sydney Opera House, 14 Feb - 21 Mar 2015. Tickets from \$63. |**



Suddenly, last night I was immersed in the daring enmeshment of contemporary and traditional theatre devices that is Kip Williams' 'Suddenly, Last Summer' presented with unremitting live video feeds.

The feeds amplify audience reach and liquefy stage boundaries. The projector screen initially engulfs downstage as the story unfurls behind it, yet upon it, providing

an illusory cinematic atmosphere. Extreme close-up projections encourage voyeuristic intrusions upon character's pained nostalgias and disparate hopes - it's absorbingly intimate.

Former STC boss Robyn Nevin portrays New Orleans matriarch Violet Venable, whose maternalistic elevations of her deceased son's artistic virtue, counter her niece's (Eryn Jean Norvill) provision of vice-riddled

factuality. Nevin unsurprisingly triumphs, yet Norvill engrosses: teetering between mental instability and distressing eloquence.

Like a fly in the symbolically omnipresent Venus Trap, I was captured by the filmic innovation, eerie orchestral scales, and thought-provoking script, which affirm that the truth is rarely pure, and never simple.

Adrian Pedic 7/10 – Natalie Prass- S/T | Columbia Records



There's a balance to Natalie Prass' debut album that's hard to imagine, on an album with traditional, 70s down-and-out soul instrumentation, there's a vocal performance that is delicate, genuine and placed right in front of the mix. What this means for the album is both good and bad.

The good news is that the dynamic of the album manages to sound fresh and new, even when it is intimately rooted in the sounds of the past. Prass' vocals are front and centre here, and without the use of any notable effects, its strong enough to not only hold the album together, but to give it momentum.

The bad news is that despite this, the album feels too safe. With emotional subject matter, sometimes she should perhaps take a risk and just belt out a line to make a point. While the choice to make the album not seem flashy is inspired, the tradition and history of soul music simply dictates that if you feel it, you should show it.

Lauren Wallace 8/10 – Paul Simon and Sting in Concert.

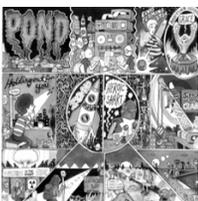


I'll preface this review by saying I was by far the youngest person in the audience. The cumulative age of my posse was still thirteen years younger than the man I had come to see perform live. The talented Paul Simon. Sting had been but an afterthought. I had attended expecting to be wading thigh-deep through nostalgia by second act. Instead

I was dismayed to realise by the second song that I would be witnessing another two hours of a tampon** in a fedora playing culturally questionable beats. Thankfully, on the other side of the stage was incredibly talented, seemingly immortal Sting: a grizzly bear at 63 and victor of the night.

Supposedly Sting has eight hour sex marathons with his wife. This is something that I can now believe whole heartedly. The take home message of Paul and Sting's collaboration was this: there are three constants in life: death, taxes and Sting. May he never cease living in the body of a thirty five year old man. **that isn't necessarily a bad thing. If you don't like tampons, that's on you man, not me.

Zac Bush 7/10 Pond – Man It Feels Like Space Again.



'Man It Feels Like Space Again,' is the sixth album in seven years for the genre-hopping frogs of 'Pond.' It's equal parts vivid as it is kaleidoscopic. Whilst listening I felt like grooving on my own with my fingers pointed out into fake pistols. Less than a minute later, courtesy of a seamless track transition, I felt like staring at a white painted ceiling for the rest of my days.

Formed at a cheeky house party in 2008, the Perth based outfit is fronted by former Tame Impala bassist Nick Allbrook, and completed by fellow alumnus Cameron Avery on bass, Joe Ryan on string guitar, and Jamie Terry on keys, all alongside current Impala stick-wielder Jay 'Gumby' Watson. The outfit's past few albums, one of which was entitled 'Psychadelic Mango,' have unpredictably

flickered from proggy Pink-Floyd, unto David Bowie glam, and good ol' garage rock. But this one doesn't feel like space again, it feels like everything come before combined.

If I had one qualm, it would be that a couple of the songs go on for just too long. Nonetheless, this is a Pond to dip your toes into.

Lauren Wallace 2/10 – Moving Home after Living Away for 6 years

Never. Again.

/SRC Reports

31

/President: Billy Bruffey

2014 was one of the biggest years for student activism in recent memory, and 2015 could be the biggest ever. While the government flounders in disarray, students around the country are marching forward to demand a better future. We are fighting for women's rights in our colleges. We are sticking up for international students with rent and employment. And we are developing a green activation zone for a more sustainable campus. But we need your help this year to make it all happen. To get involved in uni life and make a real difference, join one of our incredible collectives. They meet every week and are free to join. We are making UNSW better, and we want you to be a part of it. Shoot me an email at srcpresident@arc.unsw.edu.au to sign up to the campaign!

/General Secretary: Sophie Johnston

Hi guys! It's that time of year where we all say we'll attend every lecture and we've already done the readings for week one... But then come the Roundhouse jams and the Monday morning wakeups and when you think about it, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays aren't much easier. In the last twelve months I've learnt how to survive on next to nothing each week, how to bluff my way through tutorials and how to fake to 'City' even though I'm a country gal at heart. But the biggest thing I've learnt is that students have the ability to determine exactly how they experience their university education. And this is all possible through the SRC.

Signing up on the very first day of O-week was the best decision my wide-eyed, big-smiled-self made. I've not only been challenged and learnt about issues I'm passionate about but I've made life-long friendships that a south coast kid can only dream of when shipping off to the big city. Come and chat to our representatives and find out how you can open doors for your education. And if you're going to sign up to anything during O-week, sign up to the SRC.

/Education Officer: Cara Egan

It's not every day you get the chance to save the egalitarian fabric of an entire society from the attacks of an out of touch and selfish government. It's not every day that you can party when doing so. And it is certainly not every day that you can go and listen to some of Australia's greatest minds talk about how to save a society. Well the Education Collective has made it possible!

In O-Week you can start protecting Australia's higher education from day one. Check out our website for more info on Tuesday's 'Farewell Deregulation Party', Thursday's 'Buckle Up for Round Two Forum' and Friday's 'Crafternoon'.

Come and join the Education Collective! Our meetings held at 12pm on Mondays and 1pm on Thursdays at the Arc offices so you can start preparing for the incredibly exciting first National Day of Action to be held on the 25th of March at UTS at 2pm.

/Environment Officer: Bea Sherwood

A big welcome to all our old and new enviro friends! We've got a huge year ahead of us with a ton of environmental issues to tackle and some great plans for change on campus!

UNSW has an incredibly strong environment collective and this year we're going to be working hard on making our campus sustainable, continuing the RenewUNSW and Fossil Free UNSW campaigns and getting started on some on-campus projects, like a new community garden!

If this sounds like something you'd love to be a part of look us up on Facebook as the UNSW Environment Collective and the UNSW SRC Environment Office, or shoot us an email at enviro@arc.unsw.edu.au if you've got any questions. We have two meetings a week Wednesdays from 11-12 and Thursdays from 2-3, we've got such great plans for the year, so we hope to you see there!

Welfare Officer:

/Disabilities Officer:

Rachael Lobo

Welcome to Semester 1 of 2015! The Students with Disabilities collective is a safe space to make friends through a supportive network (we GET you!) as well as offering the chance to collaborate on thought-provoking campaigns so our neuro-typical and able-bodied peers engage with issues that affect us AND the entire UNSW community!

Every person is within a degree or two of becoming disabled, whilst many of us have struggled with conditions our whole lives. The Disability Action & Discussion Group, allows us to tackle these issues on OUR own terms. It's not autonomous (meaning you don't have to self-identify as having a disability), so there's no risk of anyone being 'outed'. The fortnightly Critical Discussions will allow you to get grounded in disability activism minus the non-judgemental atmosphere!

For everything you need to know on collective times, how to join the 'secret' facebook group, visit us at www.facebook.com/unswwithdisabilities <<http://www.facebook.com/unswwithdisabilities>> or drop by the Welfare/Disability Space on Level 4 of the Arc TKC Building!

/Ethno-Cultural Officer:

Michael Murdocca

The Ethno-cultural Department is looking forward to an awesome year full of fun initiatives in 2015. O Week is going to be awesome- we've got two events planned: an address on Anti-Racism and Religious Tolerance by the Race Discrimination Commissioner of Australia Tim Soutphommasane and a great Ethno-cultural picnic/party.

If you're a student from a culturally or linguistically diverse background, be sure to check out our new Collective page called "UNSW SRC Ethnocultural Collective". It's a great forum designed for autonomous discussion and the organisation of events. We also have new furniture in our Space and a new banner booked for this year. This year the collective will focus on engagement with the broader UNSW community to create an inclusive environment for all, whilst looking at ways to improve the everyday lives of students from a diverse range of ethnic, cultural, religious or linguistic backgrounds. Get involved in the Ethno-cultural Collective in 2015! :)

/Queer Officers:

**Joseph Dee, Jen Chen,
Brittany Jane**

The Queer Collective used Mitosis. It's super effective! In 2015 UNSW now has three, not one, not two, but three... yes kids THREE Queer Officers. They are, of course, members of the Student Representative Council for all the L's, G's, B's, T's, Q's, I's (and every other letter ever) on campus. Want to know what campaigns are running for Queer equity in 2015? Want to make a friend (or friends, hopefully people aim for the plural)? Want food (who doesn't)?

In Semester 1, meetings will be held on Mondays at 12-2pm and Wednesdays 4-6pm all the way in room 921 in the Chemical Sciences building (F10); the door is always open during meeting times and available to students outside meeting times 24/7.

Come along, have a LOL.

Your Wardens of the Rainbow

Joe, Jen, and Britt.

/Women's Officer:

Eloise McCrea-Steele

Hey everyone! Yet another year of spectacular women's collective antics are upon us. For those of you unaware of what we do, let me briefly explain. We are a group of women on campus that meet twice weekly to organise, discuss and combat a range of issues affecting women on campus. From holding great events with feminist speakers, monthly book clubs and social BBQ's to campaigning the university for a more equitable campus, there is something for every person to get involved! The meeting times for this semester are 1-2pm on Mondays and 12-1pm on Thursdays in the recently renovated women's room. There are also a number of events planned for Oweek, so feel free to visit the women's stall or check out the facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/unswwomenscollective/> for details.

/International Officer: YiFei Zhu

WELCOME TO THE WHOLE BRAND NEW YEAR 2015!

Are you guys ready for some of the awesome events of the year on campus? SRC international student office will be holding all sorts of fabulous events throughout the year, including a safety seminar, IELTS workshop, the International Night Market and more!

During O-Week, the SRC international office and Ethnic Affairs Office will be holding a garden party. You can not only get sweet treats but also meet some awesome new friends!! It is definitely something you don't want to miss out on and we are excited to see new faces coming along and saying hello!

Date: Friday 27th Feb Time: 1pm-2: 30pm Location: Globe Lawn

SRC international warmly welcome everyone to join us and hope to see you at our upcoming events! Stay updated with our email or simply like our Facebook page to get more information.

PGC Reports

/President: Alex Patton

Hey, I'm Alex. I'm the PGC President, so I am charged with managing the PGC and all its campaigns. Our mission statement is to create the best student experience - basically the PGC is here for you, here for students. This year we are going to run cool events, fight the man when it's necessary and most of all we are here to hear your input and make UNSW a better place to study. For example, we are running a campaign at the moment with our international officer to get transport concessions extended to international students. Let's face it international students can get them in QLD so why not NSW?!? Get keen ya'll. Please don't hesitate to drop me a line at pgc.president@arc.unsw.edu.au <<mailto:pgc.president@arc.unsw.edu.au>> if you have anything at all you want represented.

/PGC Vice President: Janae Tabbanor

Hi, I'm Janae, a final year JD student. This year I will serve as the Post Graduate Council's Vice President. Last year I served as the women's officer which I enjoyed immensely.

My job at the PGC is to support Alex, our President, and the other officers, and to help organise events we run during the year. I can also assist with general students enquiries about who we are, and point you in the right direction to get any help you may need on campus.

For many post-grads, coming back to uni can be daunting, especially for those who have had a long break since their undergrad days or have not attended uni before. I myself had an almost ten year gap between my undergrad and starting my post-grad JD, so any understand that it can be tough. The PGC is there to make it easier, so get in touch or come to one of our many events during the year. Looking forward to meeting you!

/PGC Events Officer: Bruno Dampney

Oh hey! I'm your 2015 PGC Events Officer, which means this year I have the enviable task of tearing postgrads away from their work for long enough to blow off some steam, meet your fellow students, and hopefully have a bit of fun.

We've got an exciting line-up of big events planned for this year! We'll be distributing a bunch of events calendars at O-Week, but if you miss out you can come by the Postgrad Lounge and pick up that information. Speaking of the Postgrad Lounge: it's just next to the new Arc Offices on Basser Steps! There's computers, fridges, tables (and chairs!), and a bunch of board games. Make sure you like us on Facebook and join the PGC Social page to get all the latest info.

Coming up in March (after our "O-Week Welcome to UNSW Meet-n-Greet Shenanigans") will be our first major event of the year: Postgraduate Speed-Dating! Entertainingly efficient mingling! Make a note in your diaries for March 27th at 6:30pm, Roundhouse. See our Facebook page for deats and rego, or email me on pgc.events@arc.unsw.edu.au <<mailto:pgc.events@arc.unsw.edu.au>>. If you have any suggestions for events you actually want to do, or feedback on how we're doing, feel free to drop me a line!

/PGC Equity Officer: Fred Marlton

Hey post-grads! I'm your equity officer for 2015. Discrimination can occur in various environments, including universities, which is why I'm here to ensure that the university experience for all postgrads is discrimination free. I will be organising events around campus this year to create awareness of discrimination in all its different forms.

I will be coordinating events, activities and student support with SEADU, Nura Gili and other student organisations. I'm here to help and stand up for any students that feel they are being subject to discrimination. Feel free to hit me up if you have any equity related issues or ideas for making your postgrad experience more enjoyable at UNSW.

/PGC Women's Officer: Maeve McGregor

Hey post-grads! My role is relatively new but I plan on making the most of it and have some great events lined up for all post-grad women, whether you're a research or coursework based student. As a post-grad law student, I bring to my role an acute awareness on the importance of networking and meeting inspirational people. So, I'm excited to announce an ongoing event I'm organising, the Women in Leadership speaker series which will include high profile women like Kristina Keneally! I'm also working on a networking event for us in late May.

I really encourage you all to come along and take advantage of these opportunities. The Equity Officer, Fred, and I are also getting together a celebration for International Women's Day in March, so keep your eyes peeled on that front!

A great part of my role is also to be your point of call for any views, ideas or concerns you have so please feel free to email me whenever you like. You can also join the UNSW Women's Collective group which enables female students to meet up and chat about concerns you have. Looking forward to seeing you this year!

/PGC Research Officer: Mahsa Hosseini

Hey fellow research students! I hope you all enjoyed your end of the year holiday. I hope to do my best to be able to meet the needs and tackle the concerns of postgraduate students at UNSW through working closely with Graduate Research School.

This year, I aim to be able to provide proper information and guidance to improve the services that research students get at UNSW. My previous experience as international officer for the PGC 2014 has made me an experienced student who understands problem areas that routinely affect postgraduate research students throughout their studies at UNSW.

Come along and bring some other postgrads to the PGC and GRS events to meet and greet and talk to us about your issues.

Also, the Postgrad Council is looking for student researchers to showcase their research project in a short YouTube video. Check the videos here goo.gl/ABtyff and if you are interested send me an email. Feel free to contact me via pge.research@arc.unsw.edu.au <<mailto:pge.research@arc.unsw.edu.au>> if you need any other information or were seeking support or would like to raise an issue.

/PGC International Officer: Nona Farbehi

It is an honour to be the voice of the international postgraduates and to be able to help solve your post-graduate issues. It has already been so pleasing to see postgraduate students eager to attend and take part in social events such as wine and cheese nights as well as different educational workshops on offer.

In my opinion, one of the most important things in establishing an excellent relationship with key members of the University is to achieve representational objectives. My favourite part is being able to work with such an energetic and active team to achieve so much towards improving postgraduate student life.

At the moment, I am working on gathering data regarding to concession for international students. International students have regular students concessions on public transport in VIC and QLD, but not in NSW. There has been fifteen years legacy on this issue and it was very close to being passed by the former labor government. If you need representation feel free to contact me!

Patricia Reid

COLOUR BY NUMBERS

- 1 = Yellow
- 2 = Green
- 3 = Pink
- 4 = Light Blue
- 5 = Dark Blue
- 6 = Purple
- 7 = Black
- 8 = Orange
- 9 = Brown
- 10 = Olive
- 11 = Red
- 12 = Light Brown



/Canvasing Randwick

Cameron Reddin

Matriarch of local arts and crafts Patricia Reid has seen the joys of a few become the passion of many as her beloved Randwick Art Society closes in on its 100th member.

Patricia, founding President of the Art Society, equates the growth of membership to the positive impact it continues to have on local artists.

"We do have some very talented artists here. I just feel that it's great for Randwick to have this Society," Patricia said.

Founded in 2009 with a member base of 14, the Randwick Art Society (RAS) became the first dedicated Art society in the Eastern Suburbs. Patricia steered RAS into becoming the focal point for local artists to hone their skills across various disciplines of arts and crafts.

"[The RAS] is very important [to its members]. We all feel the same that it's a good thing we are community-minded," she said.

Through RAS, Patricia works towards greater recognition and appreciation of all mediums of Art, along with sharing companionship with artists from the Randwick community.

Patricia believed prior to the RAS's formation that an Art society would earn greater prestige than the

preceding network of smaller groups. She also saw openings for local artists that could only be achieved through a larger organisation.

Identifying as an Art society allowed RAS to join the Combined Art Societies of Sydney (CASS) group. The annual CASS exhibition displays 300 of the top artworks from 14 societies across Sydney, and has yielded prizes for RAS members on three consecutive occasions.

"That was why I wanted [an Art society in Randwick] - the nearest one was in St. George, Kogarah. I don't know why no one else ever wanted to do it. It was just a dream I had," she said.

Randwick Literary Institute has played host to RAS meetings each Monday since February 2010, and has hosted numerous exhibitions.

Manager of the Literary Institute Marian McIntosh says she has enjoyed watching the society grow to be one of the more popular activities held at the venue.

Having stepped down as Society President at the end of 2012, Patricia has continued her involvement as public officer and historian. She remains a regular participant in weekly RAS events.

"I wouldn't be here if I didn't [enjoy it]," she said with a grin.

“

***I don't know
why no one else
ever wanted to
do it. It was just
a dream I had.***

”

An 84-year resident of Randwick, art has been a central part of Patricia's life since she began taking art classes at Randwick Public School.

While Patricia was pleased by the successful grades she scored, she truly realised her love for art through another childhood pastime.

“When I was very young they used to have art contests at all the theatres and I always entered those,” she said.

“They would give you a sheet of whatever movie you saw – you'd take them home and fill them in – and I was always winning those. It was just colouring-in but I always loved it, it was just natural.”

She joined the South Sydney Juniors Intra Art Club in 1968, winning several awards for her artworks.

Over time, she experimented with various disciplines before settling on oil painting as her medium of choice.

“I'd tried everything else. Water-colour [artworks] are more difficult – if you muck a water-colour up, you just screw it up and throw it away,” she said.

“If I did an oil painting of anything and didn't like it, I could paint all over it and make a completely new painting. I love oils, they're lovely to work with.”

Patricia's Art regularly fills the walls of the Literary Institute alongside other works from RAS members.

While all artworks are replaced after a few weeks to ensure each member gets their time on display, two smaller paintings have remained on display over summer in memory of the society's late mentor and founding member Peter Schanzer.

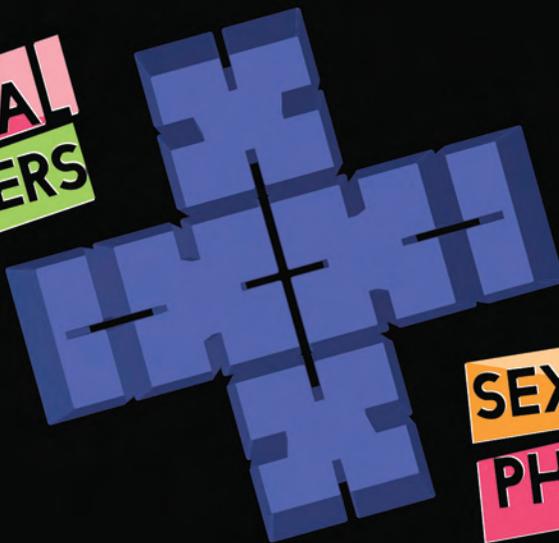
“Peter left his paintings to the [Prince of Wales] Hospital... we decided to leave the ones he had on display,” Patricia said.

Patricia's hopes for the RAS in 2015 have not changed since she first began.

“I hope the society grows,” she said.

“I hope our members keep coming back and I hope it grows more.”

**GENERAL
PRACTITIONERS**



**SEXUAL HEALTH
PHYSICIANS**

FREE RAPID HIV TESTS

Please tell reception if you want to book a Rapid Test

**Sexual Health Check-ups
See the specialists**

Show your Student Card
and everything will be Bulk Billed.

 **taylor square
private clinic**

Surgery hours

Monday to Friday 8am - 7pm

Saturday 10am - 12 noon

by appointment 9331 6151

393 Bourke Street Darlinghurst

www.tspc.com.au



Submit your Letters & Comments to Tharunka
tharunka@arc.unsw.edu.au
twitter.com/tharunka
tharunka, PO Box 173, Kingsford, NSW, 2032

ARC
UNSW Student Life