

The Sydney Morning Herald

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FOUNDATION DAY

Give Baird the bird



NO WOMAN SHOULD HAVE
TO CHOOSE BETWEEN
BUYING FOOD OR SANITARY PRODUCTS.

Yet this is the reality for tens of
thousands of Australia's homeless women.

Share the Dignity aims to help by collecting enough packs of
sanitary items to ensure no woman has to do without. With more than 10,000
homeless women in NSW alone, this is a problem we can only fix with the generous
support of the whole community.

This August, UNSW is playing host to three collection points for donations of
sanitary items. Please donate even just one packet to help give a woman back
her dignity and show that someone cares about her.

Collection Sites

look for the big pink box to drop off your donations at:

LOWER CAMPUS: Law Building, Level 1 Lounge
(next to the top of the escalators)

MIDDLE CAMPUS: Nura Gili,
Ground Floor, Electrical Engineering Building
(outside the main doors)

UPPER CAMPUS:
John Clancy Auditorium
(in the main foyer)

QUESTIONS? EMAIL NEWS@SHARETHEDIGNITY.COM.AU

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



NATALIE
SEKULOVSKA
/
MANAGING EDITOR

Here are a few things that have irked me this past month.

Electronic voting

Like Pokémon Go, it's a really bad idea.

1. Bad sports hack the game and ruin the fun for everyone.
2. It crashes just as you're about to collect 'em all.
3. Your grandparents hate it.
4. You press a whole lot of buttons and find something unexpected like a dead body or Tony Abbott as your PM again.
5. It's just a fad, so interest will be at an all time high before it comes crashing back down.

Because if politicians think there's something wrong with the process, they need to take a long hard look at themselves first. No one likes playing a game that's advertised as being free, when they're expected to pay \$\$\$ for sneaky in-app add-ons after they join.

Senator P-Hanson

You know the world is messed up when the existence of Senator Pauline Hanson is scarier than The Conjuring 2. After years of trying and failing (*for good reason*), she claimed her first Senate seat in Queensland, and is expecting more One Nation wins in WA and NSW.

Tbh, you don't need to be a rocket scientist, or even a political enthusiast, to see that her policies are unreasonable, discriminatory and downright terrifying. Anyone who thinks they have the prerogative to bully a large proportion of the population, does not have the best interests of that population at heart.

If anything, she should stand down from her Senate seat because, let's face it, plagiarism is a very serious offence.

For now, I'm going to blame her Senate presence on contaminated #democracysausages in Queensland, and potentially WA and NSW, because the reality that people actually copied and pasted her into Parliament is the definition of distressing.

Hysterical Steve Price

It is not ok to make jokes about violence against women. It is not ok to make jokes about violence against anyone.

It is not ok to downplay the situation by saying, "But they apologised immediately."

It is not ok to downplay their behaviour by saying, "But they were a bunch of blokes laughing."

It is not ok to downplay the greater issue at hand by saying, "I think far too much was made of what was originally a joke."

It is not ok to speak over someone (*multiple times*).

It is not ok to call them hysterical when they tell you to stop speaking over them (*multiple times*).

It is not ok to say that you were "ambushed" by a person asking a question on Q&A.

It is not ok to say that you reacted the way you did because of an "aggressive woman".

It is not ok to blame any of this on anyone but yourself.

I think I'm done.

THARUNKA

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Tharunka acknowledges the traditional
custodians of this land, the Gadigal
and Bedigal people of the Eora nation,
on which our university now stands

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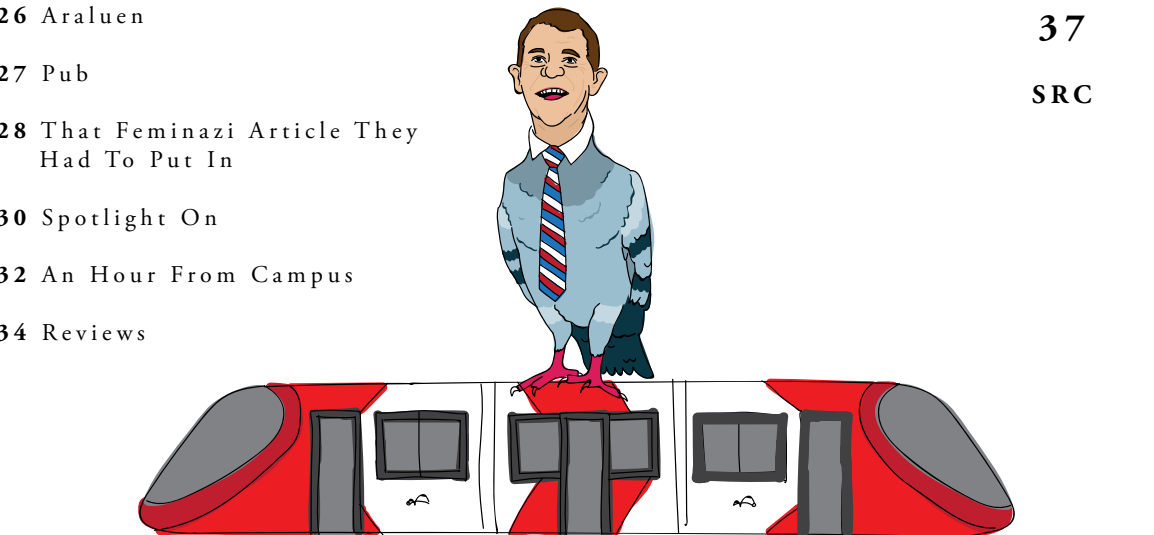
W / WORDS

A / ART

P / PHOTO

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OPEN LETTER TO VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Vice-Chancellor Jacobs,

We are writing to you as the UNSW Art & Design Council, on behalf of the students and staff on our campus. We are standing up for students, who are concerned for the future of arts education at UNSW. We are standing up for artists, who are concerned for the future of the Arts in NSW. We are starting a conversation about the proposed merger of Sydney College of the Arts, and UNSW Art & Design.

Two weeks ago, on June 21, we received email confirmation of a proposed merger between the two institutions – of the possibility that beginning Semester 1, 2017, SCA and UNSWAD would no longer exist as two independent art institutions, but would merge, with SCA closing its doors.

There was no consultation and no warning for students at both institutions.

The UNSWAD Council stands in opposition to the proposed merger and in support of the SCA student body. As the representative body of the campus, we understand and experience the limited access to resources, facilities and staff that students at Art & Design currently face. The proposed introduction of students from SCA is not sustainable within a campus that already faces issues of accessibility and space. The proposed introduction of students from SCA serves only to restrict diversity within arts education, forcing students of different practice and experience to inhabit the same space with no effort to understand the needs of either party.

As we stated in our initial response, the effect the proposed merger will have on the SCA student body, on the UNSWAD student body, on arts education and on the Arts community at large is irreversible. The response is undeniable – by not being consulted about a decision, which will majorly impact their future as artists, students at UNSWAD and SCA feel left in the dark by the university.

Professor Jacobs, we urge you to listen to students' voices of concern. We urge you to meet with us, to listen to the SCA and UNSWAD students' experiences, to make a stand for the Arts and arts education in NSW. We seek to work with you in finding a solution to this problem.

Sincerely,

UNSW Art & Design Student Council

FROM
LSS
TEAM

STOP!

the divestment plan

SCA STAFF

STUDIO BASED PRACTICE

COURSE RESOLUTIONS

FACILITIES

NOT NEGOTIABLE!

#letscastay

facebook.com/letscastay





A /
CLAIRE
CAO

NEWS



IS THE NSW GOVERNMENT ACTUALLY PROTECTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

W / BRITTNEY RIGBY
A / CASSIE BELL

The NSW government has proposed new tenancy laws that would mean domestic violence victims could break their lease more quickly in order to escape an abusive partner.

Under current laws, before a fixed rental contract can be broken, victims must give their landlords two weeks' notice and provide a final AVO. This final AVO can take up to 12 months to obtain.

"This is an unacceptable and often burdensome process for people living in dangerous situations," said Victor Dominello, Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation.

The new laws would mean that a victim could terminate a tenancy immediately, upon supply of a provisional, interim or final AVO, or court order.

Additionally, agents and landlords would not be allowed to list a victim of domestic violence on a database, in situations where debt or property damage arose at the premises because of a violent partner.

"The new laws will provide victims with certainty they won't be penalised in future rental applications," said Mr Dominello.

However, just a week before the proposed laws were announced, it was reported that the NSW government will cut almost 100 child protection jobs across the next 12 months.

Abuse prevention experts predict that the system will struggle to cope with fewer resources.

This news comes despite the NSW government identifying improving the child protection system as a priority.

"Protecting our most vulnerable is one of the most important things a government can do," Premier Mike Baird said.

"Of all of our priorities, this one is the one that is already showing the most encouraging results, and while we have a long way to go, we are already seeing a real difference."

However, Opposition Community Services spokesperson, Tania Mihailuk, questions how cutting child protection jobs will help those in need.

"The child protection system was already stretched to breaking point," she said. "We simply cannot continue down this path and expect outcomes to improve."

The NSW child protection system will be examined in an upcoming parliamentary inquiry, with one anonymous caseworker revealing to Fairfax Media that staff members were pressured to complete cases quickly, without performing appropriate risk assessments.

"In the long term, it will mean that more children end up in out-of-home care because the early intervention was not done at the outset," they said. "It's a train wreck being played out in slow motion."

It was also recently revealed that the NSW government does not monitor the number of refuge beds available for women in shelters because it isn't a "meaningful way" of measuring demand for such services.

Figures show that one in three women are turned away from shelters, and refuge managers from across NSW say they're at capacity.

"The government has consistently denied there are fewer beds in the sector but they have no way of knowing that," said Jenny Aitchison, Shadow Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. "How can they adequately fund something they are not measuring?"

Roxanne McMurray, a spokesperson for advocacy group SOS Women's Services, agrees.

"It seems astonishing the government doesn't keep figures when it's the only way of knowing where to allocate resources," she said.

"From all the feedback we receive from the services, we know capacity is the greatest issue for refuges."

The NSW government stated it would double spending to more than \$300 million on specialist domestic violence programs over four years, in the state budget announced in June.

This includes an allocation of \$188 million for all crisis homelessness services, such as women's refuges, and \$2.8 million for women's community shelters.

Yet Ms Aitchison's request under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* for the Department of Family and Community Services to reveal how many beds are available for women in shelters proved unsuccessful.

The Department replied that it doesn't "hold or record" such information because bed availability is affected by a number of factors, such as bed bug infestation.

"Apart from being stunned that they didn't collect the data, I was horrified by the explanation I got," Ms Aitchison said.

"These women are being victimised and traumatised. Now they have to contend with bed bugs. Seriously?"



PAULINE HANSON V DERRYN HINCH: WHO WORE IT BETTER?

W / BRITTNEY RIGBY

A / CASSIE BELL

Both Pauline Hanson and Derryn Hinch have been elected to the Senate in the recent election, but while they both share controversy and jail time, their approach to policy and parliament doesn't necessarily match up.

Hanson has secured a seat as part of her One Nation party, whilst Hinch claims he and his Justice Party are representatives of a "common sense" approach to politics.

Hinch's campaign adopted a law-and-order approach, as his party's name suggests, however he states he will be more than "just the anti-pedophile senator".

He has previously been incarcerated for naming pedophiles and breaching suppression orders, and has declared he will push for a national public register of convicted sex offenders.

Yet he says he will also prioritise ending the live export trade, pushing for a Senate inquiry into the Family Court and child welfare agencies, and lifting the national rate of organ donations.

The Justice Party's website states they stand for justice in sentencing, bail reform, parole reform, domestic violence law reform, equality, animal justice, a public register of convicted sex offenders and voluntary euthanasia.

His proposals for bail and parole reform involve tightening relevant laws, however the party's commitment to equal rights is less specific, citing the "slogan": "It's just common sense."



But Hinch is no fan of Hanson, stating her political comeback is "extraordinary".

"Pauline has traded 'I hate Chinese' for 'I hate Muslims,'" he said.

"A royal commission into a religion? That's crazy stuff."

Hanson's campaign has been characterised by her disagreement with Islam and Halal certification, and her belief that Australians "feel they have been swamped by Asians".

One Nation proposes to ban the burqa and niqab in public, ban Halal certification, stop Muslim immigration and install surveillance cameras in mosques.

"I'd like to know what they are teaching in those mosques. You can't deny the fact that in these mosques, they've been known to preach hate towards us," Hanson said.

One Nation's policy platform states: "Do you want your children and grandchildren to be living under Sharia Law and treated as a second-class citizen with no rights? We don't!"

"By buying Halal certified products, it means that you are financially supporting the Islamisation of Australia, including Sharia Law, which opposes our Australian Constitution and democracy."

The party also opposes multiculturalism.

"One Nation will abolish multiculturalism and the Racial Discrimination Act and promote assimilation, nationalism, loyalty and pride in being an Australian," it says.

Hanson's party has strong opinions on immigration and asylum seekers.

"What we have here is someone coming into your home telling you they like your house better than theirs and they are going to live with you," One Nation claims.

"Your children now have to share a room and you have to make the dollars stretch further to provide for them.

"If you don't give them what they want, they will complain and you will be forced to answer why you are so inhumane not to have them live in your home, that you worked hard for."

But a Junkee investigation has revealed that One Nation's policies on Halal, the United Nation's Agenda 21 conspiracy and medical marijuana appear to be plagiarised from a number of online sources, including Wikipedia.

Junkee indicated that large slabs of policy text look to have been copied and pasted.

With jail-time and airtime between them (*and some liberty with the Ctrl+C function in the case of One Nation*), Hinch and Hanson both have power after their recent wins, but don't expect the Queenslanders to see eye-to-eye.

"I'm not looking forward to it, we have very little in common," Hinch said, on working with Hanson.

"I've only met her once ... she's pleasant, but what comes out of her mouth isn't very pleasant."



MALCOLM TURNBULL ANNOUNCES CONTROVERSIAL PLEBISCITE TO DECIDE WHO SHOULD BE LEADER OF THE NATION

W / TOBY WALMSLEY

In an announcement that has caused an uproar of discussion across the nation, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has announced that he will go ahead with his controversial plebiscite to decide who should be the leader of the nation.

In a press conference this evening, Mr Turnbull stated that it was about time that Australians had a say in who should be their leader.

The decision came after an election with tepid posturing from the now Prime Minister, who seemed reluctant to push the policy advised by the conservative arm of his party.

"I am a firm believer in the power of people to dictate policy," Mr Turnbull stated in his press conference this evening, "that is why the Coalition is willing to listen to the needs and desires of the constituents."

"I have said it consistently throughout my campaign: We are a strong and stable party," he stated, "which is why we believe we can, for the first time, withstand the opinion of the public."

The opposition leader, Bill Shorten, did not wait long to oppose the plebiscite, calling it a "dangerous and insidious" move that would only give a platform to racists and bigots. He accused the Prime Minister of misunderstanding the political culture of Australia, stating that people choosing a leader was a highly unusual practice that "had not been taken seriously since 2007".

Mr Shorten also raised security concerns around the plebiscite, citing events that happened over 15,000km away over a month ago as evidence that Australian society was "on the brink of collapse".

The announcement of the plebiscite was immediately met with heated discussion over social media.



Advocacy groups have already called to suspend anti-discrimination laws during the plebiscite campaign, with Darryl Adams, leader of the anti-democracy advocacy group GetOut!, stating that politicians "need to have the capability to oppose the plebiscite without fear of persecution". He cited outrageous discrimination politicians face from the media as the reason for these precautionary measures.

"We're concerned about politicians being taken to human rights commissars around Australia simply for advocating for the right of the parties to choose the leader of the nation, and ignore their electorates if they so choose," he added in a video interview after the announcement.

"If people are dictating the policy, why have leaders at all? We have seen the possible destruction that can be wrought upon a nation when the people rule under communist regimes. We must learn the lessons of the 20th century."

No date has been set for the plebiscite yet, but Malcolm Turnbull was quick to guarantee the nation that there would be very few changes in leadership until the date was set.

FEATURES

WHAT ARE YOUR
THOUGHTS ON THESE STORIES?

/

HAVE YOUR SAY BY SENDING A
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

tharunka@arc.unsw.edu.au

SCA X UNSWAD MERGE

W / EMMA-KATE WILSON

On June 20, *The Daily Telegraph* published an article detailing the closure of the Sydney College of the Arts (SCA) – something that didn't quite come as a surprise to those who have been following the future of USyd's art school over the past few years, or in fact anyone aware of the continual cuts to arts funding in the state.

With this news, came that of a joint merger with the University of New South Wales, a statement confirming that the two universities were in talks to unite SCA and UNSW's Art & Design (UNSWAD) campus. Since the announcement, there has been a consistent state of upset across the Arts community, and within campuses, including the National Arts School (NAS).

As a member of the UNSWAD Council, I have decided to look at some of the facts (*and myths*) surrounding the looming merger, after conversations with representatives at NAS, SCA and UNSW. At the time of writing, the clearest answer from all parties involved has been 'we don't know yet'. It seems no one can give a straight answer to what the merger means for students, the Arts, and the wider community. SCA has not taken this furiously ambiguous answer lying down, with planned protests, community action and the growing campaign to #letSCAstay.

So, what are the facts? SCA and UNSWAD have entered into a Heads of Agreement, with a merger planned as soon as Semester 1, 2017, as confirmed by emails sent out to both UNSWAD and SCA students on June 21. The proposed merger does not take into account the differences in study undertaken or art produced by SCA students, but states they can transfer to a UNSW degree, or undertake their final units of study at UNSW, graduating with a University of Sydney degree.

Students from UNSWAD campus are as frustrated as their SCA counterparts at the proposal. Currently, SCA has 550 undergraduate students who will have to find new ways to complete their studies, all with individual studio space. The most common concern is, how will an influx of new students affect the Art & Design campus?

Well, quite simply, it won't work. UNSWAD has a capacity of 2,300 students. Currently, this capacity is running at 1900, so we only have room for 400 new students. As much as both USyd and UNSW pretend that the SCA students have a multitude of options of continuing their studies, they don't. SCA students who transfer will not retain their independent studio space, and the courses they will be offered will not be more diverse than the current UNSWAD curriculum..

More classes will be added to accommodate new students, but there is still no confirmation as to whether SCA staff are being transferred over, or offered jobs. The news coming from our own university seems to be heavily juxtaposing the information offered by SCA, posing concerns with transparency.

Whilst the merger is yet undecided, we must show compassion and understanding to our fellow students, our counterparts in the arts community. The biggest help that can be offered to SCA students as UNSWAD students is support, in their campaign and in their predicament. While we have chosen this university, next year may bring students who never did.

Discussions are currently ongoing between the UNSWAD Student Council, Arc and faculty representatives, as well as Art & Design Dean, Ross Harley. These discussions are looking at how we can resolve the issue of the merger and support the SCA.

UN-MERGE MY ART

W / CARLA ZUNIGA-NAVARRO

I never really understood how you could feel fully yourself in a place until my third year at UNSW, when in a fit of fear about graduating, I transferred to a double degree, extending my time at uni by three years and changing my status from main campus student, to Art & Design student.

The change took effect instantly. Up to this point, I had attended class, submitted essays, rushed home, repeated. University was a way to get from A to B, a passing and often perplexing phase of my life that would soon be over, that I would soon forget.

UNSWAD was a place which allowed me to submerge myself into the art world, making me feel at ease in the often confusing and demanding world of university. It is a place completely unique, a community fully its own, with its own understanding of how art and arts education can function and evolve.

The recent announcement that UNSWAD and SCA have signed a Heads of Agreement has completely flipped the existing order within the two communities.

A seemingly innocent email appearing in our inboxes on a Tuesday morning, actually signalled massive changes to the way our university approaches arts education, and an irreversible and damaging move towards a homogenous arts community in Sydney.

With a re-elected federal Coalition government comes a consistent and continual lack of understanding of the Arts, and a population that values the creative mind. Recent cuts to valuable Federal funding of the Australia Council, as well as to small and medium arts organisations, has created huge instability within the industry.

This merger is another huge blow to the arts community, what the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) has called “a cost saving exercise, with the University of Sydney reneging on its responsibility to offer a diversity of educational options to students”.

So, let's bring it back. Let's simplify this equation. SCA is a peak educational body within the arts, consistently producing innovative artists and exciting works. UNSWAD exists within a similar space, urging its students to explore the contemporary art field and produce works reflective of their unique artistic understanding and practice.

These two, very separate, very different educational institutions are not the same. They produce artists and works, which are unique and valuable in independent ways. A merger will bring less diversity, less innovation, and less exploration within the arts and serve only to buy into the idea that art is worth less than money. That art is interchangeable, and art education not worth investment.

While our counterparts at SCA protest and create an online presence, the UNSWAD Council will continue to support its students and staff in their concerns, and its fellow artists in their campaign to #letSCAstay.

In less than a year's time, we may all be one student body, inhabiting one space.

/

NSW GOVERNMENT STRIKES AGAIN WITH WESTCONNEX

W / BREANA MACPHERSON-RICE

How many times have you waited to get the 370 from High Street down to Coogee or Newtown, knowing you'll end up cursing in frustration as three turn up at the same time, all at varying degrees of very-very late? Or tried to drive to UNSW and ended up spending longer than your journey took, trying to find a park a reasonable distance from campus? Too damn many? Yeah, me too.

I think it is pretty reasonable to say that Sydney's transport network is abysmal. Known for its history of destroying good things (*Who the hell thought it was a good idea to cement over our extensive tram network? Get lost car lobby*) and lack of future planning, the NSW government has allowed the state's roads and public transport to cripple under the weight of over four million people's needs. An exchange student friend described Sydney buses as 'third world'. Clearly, we need investment in transport solutions, so why is WestConnex, pitched as part of this solution, so controversial?

If you haven't paid much attention, the public outrage surrounding this proposed \$17 billion toll road could seem like the petulant cries of inner-city yuppies, sparked by a nimby-esque defensiveness. But as soon as the project is given even a little scrutiny, it becomes apparent that this so-called solution is not the one we deserve, and that locals are doing the rest of us a favour, as they begin to blockade and delay the road's expansion.

The issue of WestConnex as a whole is more complex than can be articulated here, but can broadly be described as follows. What we're seeing is a huge spend on transport for a less than impressive result; the expansion and lengthening of an existing road into the city, a lack of planning for what to do with an influx of cars into the city, the privatisation of this road in a manner that is more likely to hit low income earners hard, and precious little invested into the affordable reliable alternatives that people need – which probably shouldn't rely on petrol, cars and roads.

By simply tinkering around the edges of Sydney's existing road network, it is very doubtful that WestConnex will bring the kind of radical improvements we should rightfully expect from this once-in-a-generation spend on city transport infrastructure. This is without even launching into the important conversation to be had around supporting more cars on the road, while the rest of Sydney's network – where these cars will presumably come from and go to – screams out for a break.

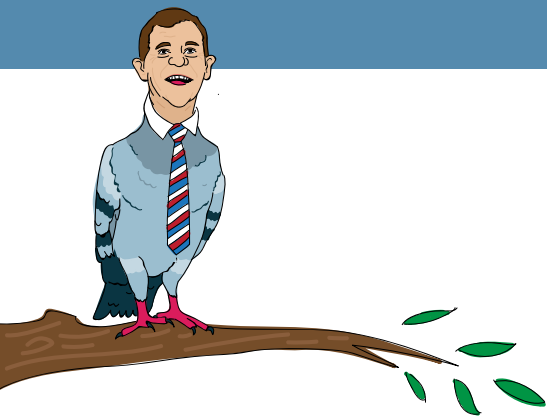
These issues are ones that should be debated and addressed, but instead, what we have seen is a blatantly obvious lack of proper avenues for consultation, input and criticism. With such a huge spend of taxpayers' money, leading to even greater pocket-digging for the people of Sydney as the tolls emerge, the government should be certain that WestConnex is a solution that people want and will use. A far cry from this, we have seen ordinary residents of the inner suburbs of Sydney mobilise in an almost militant fashion, holding rallies, getting arrested for occupying houses ready to be demolished, and stacking council meetings in an attempt to, at the very least, put the brakes on this rushed project.

On top of this, the whole thing reeks of corruption and bad decisions, fitting the tune of bad development that NSW and Australia have earned a reputation for in recent decades. The company contracted to build WestConnex has been involved in a host of other failures, while the local councils that object to WestConnex have collapsed and combined under a new 'administrator' appointed by the conservative state government that is one of the dwindling number of supporters of the project.

What angers me the most about WestConnex is the sheer lack of foresight that it speaks to, as privatisation and extension of an existing road is prioritised over the need for huge investment to make public transport more accessible and reliable. Transport should be built with generations to come in mind, and needs to arise from the articulated needs of the people that use it.

WestConnex, as I see it, is just scratching the mosquito bite – likely to give a bit of relief, but only going to exacerbate the problem.

To find out more about the details of all the shoddy corner-cutting of WestConnex or get involved in the campaign against it, check out WestConnex Action Group online.



OLDER THAN UNSW: THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE

W / OLIVIA INWOOD

Around 8pm on a Sunday night during the university winter break, the activist group *Saving Sydney's Trees* made a Facebook post alerting their followers to the removal of a Moreton Bay Fig tree, dating back to the 1860s. This tree on the corner of Wansey Rd and High St, adjacent to UNSW, was known fondly as the 'Tree of Knowledge'.

The exact date was July 10. This was also the day Bill Shorten officially conceded defeat, allowing Malcolm Turnbull to declare victory for the Liberals in the Federal Election. In lesser-known news, The Better Planning Network (BPN) had also announced the NSW Government's new development plan to construct another overhead bridge along Anzac Parade, with two super ramps at each end, and a part of a much greater plan by developers to transform Moore Park. Although these announcements appear separate, they do reveal an intersection between local, state and federal politics in the Randwick area, and the fight against the Liberals to preserve Randwick's green spaces. With the election season over, tree loppers were free again to finish destroying the trees and to announce more development proposals.

Many trees similar to the Tree of Knowledge have already been chopped down along Anzac Parade and Wansey Rd to make way for the CBD and South East Light Rail Project, despite community outrage. This particular tree, however, according to the Randwick City Council, still had some hope of being saved. As Councillor Murray Matson told the Southern Courier:

"I personally had a meeting with TfNSW and UNSW in an attempt to work out a possible solution whereby the line could have been shifted to run through some adjacent university owned property on the corner of High and Wansey. The council understood that the tree was not scheduled to be removed until November and was trying to work with the Government in [sic] good fail to achieve a win for the community."

Councillor Tony Bowen expressed these same comments after the first night of felling, when a press conference was held in front of a half-massacred Tree of Knowledge.

"The saddest fact about this, is that it's completely unnecessary. The council was told the tree was safe until November to give UNSW and transport NSW time to find an alternative."

The Federal member of Kingsford-Smith Matt Thistlethwaite and NSW Opposition Leader Luke Foley were also present. As Labor and Greens politicians from local, state and federal levels have all expressed their desire to save the trees, locals can't help but question why construction plans have not, at the very least, been put on hold. The political nature of this issue was capitalised by the Federal Labor Government with signs stating: "SAVE THE TREES PUT THE LIBERALS LAST", placed around Randwick. But sadly, no trees have been saved so far.

Malcolm Turnbull has avoided directly addressing the issue, despite his electorate of Wentworth also covering the area. On June 12, Prime Minister Turnbull held a press conference at Centennial Park, announcing that the park was going to be placed on a shortlist to become a National Heritage listed site. This was after many trees had been destroyed along the side of the park bordering Alison Rd, again to make way for the light rail. The Liberal Party knows that they are destroying heritage and this is why they are quick to make sure they can minimise the negative press, with their precise timing. Of course, Premier Mike Baird does not have an election for some time, so he can remain even more silent on the issue.

In response to the destruction of the Tree of Knowledge, during a meeting held on July 12, Randwick City Council passed a motion calling for a moratorium on any further tree removals. This includes a revaluation into the light rail design and a minimum 28-day period of consultation with Randwick residents. Although this news is pleasing, this issue is essentially a state matter. The only way the

destruction of these trees can be stopped is by calling for a parliamentary inquiry at state level, with the support of the NSW crossbenchers.

It cannot be stressed enough, how timing is central to this issue. Again, if the NSW Liberal Party believed that they were representing the interests of the community, they wouldn't have to cut down the Tree of Knowledge and the trees along Anzac Parade and Alison Rd, in the middle of the night, on weekends and during the holidays, in such a secretive manner. These trees were a part of an ecosystem, providing a habitat to animals and much needed shade, absorbing excess water and cleaning the air of pollutants.

UNSW has also remained publically silent on this issue. Luke Foley adopted a nostalgic tone when discussing the tree: "I was a student [at the University of NSW] in 1980s – I know this Tree of Knowledge well", but this feeling has not been reciprocated by the university, even though the symbolism cannot be ignored. The UNSW motto '*scientia manu et mente*' (*knowledge by hand and mind*) is well known. The Scientia building, a hybrid between tree branches and a book, was designed to evoke a 'tree of knowledge'. UNSW's 67th Foundation Day is supposed to be a celebration of the traditions and heritage of the university, but this means UNSW should acknowledge where its values are aligned. Concerning issues such as fossil fuel divestment, have not been resolved, and while the Tree of Knowledge appears small in comparison, it also reflects the university's passiveness to addressing environmental concerns. Nobody wants to be on the wrong side of history.

Many will question the significance of this single tree, although we cannot ignore the larger political framework at play. Frequent comments made by concerned locals on the *Saving Sydney's Trees* Facebook page describe their frustration with the NSW Government. They believe that this 'war on trees' is not representative of a democracy, where it appears that only 'Chainsaw Mike' and the developers hold the balance of power.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On 27 May 2016, at 9:27 AM, [Flynn Malnic](#) wrote:

To Natalie Sekulovska and the editors of Tharunka,

My name is Flynn, I am a second year Mining Engineering student and I must say, your May edition of *Tharunka* – the “environment issue” – disappoints me.

In it, the *Environment Collective* has wasted a valuable opportunity to discuss real environmental challenges facing our society, to shine a light for solutions and to promote the spirit of education we are surely all here for. How much better to use such opportunity to discuss and showcase solutions, rather than running a lopsided political rant.

Your writers appear highly misinformed about the resources sector and seem solely intent on promoting hysteria about the mining industry, coal seam gas and climate change.

You have rushed to join the current vogue of driving a wedge between Australia's *only* two primary industries - agriculture and mining. They are in fact the *world's* only two primary industries, and the two industries that have led to the ascent of our modern universe and rich society. And of course lesser miracles like *Tharunka*, and the materials that go into it.

Our lives are a synergy, we are codependent, we are a single civilization [sic] and yet you prefer to spin us into a false dichotomy – the good vs. bad. It is only the students who live in the humidicrib of university who think fossil fuels aren't important. As much as we all want them, it is empty moral grandstanding for you to pretend alternatives will be affordable and effective any time soon. We will reach these alternatives through science but it is reckless to suggest alternatives are available now.

The search for energy alternatives should be boundless! Solutions need to be found and discussed. Take a look at Lockheed Martin's nuclear fusion project promising to revolutionise energy – Google it. In MacPherson and Rice's article about a dirty Australian mine being part of the Fukushima reactor disaster you condemned all nuclear power, one of the hopes for clean energy. The fault there was building the plant below the tsunami high water mark.

There are many other pressing and real problems that can be addressed today:

Eight millions tons of plastic are being dumped into the ocean every year. Continued use of agricultural land depletes soils of nutrients, which must be replenished from mining. Soil erosion from agriculture likely moves more material than mining. Yale Professor Brian Skinner once estimated eight mouthfuls of soil are lost for every five mouthfuls of food. Agriculture is the predominant destroyer of broad-acre natural environment.

The great wealth generated from the maps 'point sources' of mineral wealth can be applied to remediating the broad acre destruction we have achieved. We must work together and have every debate, instead of avoiding them as you do.

As our use of fossil fuels has increased, billions of people have been raised out of poverty, mortality rates have decreased globally and we have improved the quality of our lives unimaginably. This is all due to the low cost, efficient and reliable energy that is coal, gas and oil.

From your witless *Fossil Free UNSW* movement to Macpherson-Rice and Bell's unscholarly article on the dangers of uranium to Donaldson's self-contradicting article on coal seam gas, it is apparent the entire *Environment Collective* doesn't care about the environment – it is merely looking for a fight, although safe from the possibility that real world opponents will be reading Tharunka for spiritual guidance on energy. The passion of your writers does not lie in the beauty of nature and the achievements of our species, but in tshe [sic] rebelliousness of civil unrest and self-loathing.

Here are the numbers:

Eighty percent of your articles rail against mining, coal seam gas or climate change. *None* offered a solution. If you aren't discussing solutions, you can only be the problem.

You are peddling fantasies that delude the campus population by saying we must stop coal mining to create alternative energy sources. If we stop mining, we import it from another country because *we need energy*.

Here is the key: open your magazine to people with solutions; search for writers who want to improve our planet. It might interrupt the sound of your own views resonating but why not run this letter in full, and ask for others. We are here in a place of learning - which also has a School of Mining Engineering - where people come to generate the solutions. We find the materials for solar and wind plants, for your bus ride, for your hypodermics and your printing press. Whatever energy solutions you want, we are still going to have to provide the materials for you. This is how our country helps the world.

Flynn Malnic

Part of the solution

ELECTION 2016: BEHIND THE VOTE COUNT

W / BRITTNEY RIGBY

Now that Malcolm (re)Turnbull has been officially found victorious, it seems as good a time as any to take you behind the scenes of this very drawn out, very close election.

I was employed as an Officer-in-Charge by the Australian Electoral Commission at Town Hall on July 2: D-day, aka polling day.

Town Hall is a super booth on Election Day, meaning it acts as a polling place for both voters outside of their electorate and voters outside of their state. Interstate voting was set up on the other side of Town Hall, whilst all voting within New South Wales occurred inside Town Hall itself. *(I should say now that, despite being a super booth, Town Hall did not have a single #democracysausage in sight. That's right. No sausage sizzle. No justice.)*

Town Hall is also an electronic voting place. We used laptops to issue ballot papers, searching for a voter on the roll and printing the appropriate House of Representatives ballot paper for any electorate in the state, based on a voter's enrolled address.

We were able to search for a voter by surname, first name and/or date of birth. Usually first and surname were adequate, but there were interesting situations in which birthdate proved unexpectedly essential. For example, should a father and son both share the same name and live at the same address, it would be impossible to distinguish them by name alone.

If a voter can be found and certified on the roll, and their ballot papers are printed, this is classed as an 'ordinary' vote. However, if a voter changed address but did not update their details, cannot be found on the roll, or are already marked as having voted in the election, the voter cannot be issued an ordinary vote.

Instead, they can be issued with a declaration vote at a separate table. The

declaration ballot boxes could not be opened once polling closed at 6pm on voting day, unlike ordinary ballot boxes, and so they were not included in our count on voting night.

I was assigned to the division of Sydney for the vote count, the largest division at Town Hall *(considering it was the local electorate)* and accounting for more than half of the votes received.

All ballot boxes had to be accounted for, the serial numbers of the seals matched to the relevant box and this signed off on by me as the Officer-in-Charge and witnessed, before the seals could be cut and the ballot boxes opened.

The process itself involved three counts: a House of Representatives first preference count, a House of Representatives two candidate preferred count and a Senate first preference count.

The House of Reps first preference count was straightforward enough; we had a pile for each candidate, and each vote was assigned to a pile based on wherever the voter had assigned a [1], their valuable first preference.

Informal votes were weeded out during this process. A vote was deemed informal where any numbers *(other than the very last number)* were missing, numbers were duplicated, or no numbers were entered at all.

One informal voter dedicated a lot of time and effort to essentially have their vote excluded from the count, entering algebraic formulas in place of numbers on their paper, with a detailed solution on the back of the ballot.

The two candidate preferred (TCP) count involved redistributing all candidates' first preferences to either Geoffrey Winters or Tanya Plibersek *(for the division of Sydney)*, based on whichever candidate was ranked higher on each ballot.

Finally, the Senate count was basically the bloody worst. We literally needed to make a pile for each of the bazillion *(slight exaggeration)* parties running, and do both an above the line and below the line count.

Voting in the Senate changed this election: voters had to number at least 1 – 6 above the line or 1 – 12 below the line.

I was involved in the above the line count. We sorted the *(crazy large)* ballot papers into the following piles: Liberal, Labor and Other. The 'Other' pile was then sorted into each party that was awarded a first preference.

At each stage of the count, the results were double-counted before being bundled into groups of 50, counted again and the numbers called in to the AEC office. Ultimately, everything had to reconcile and balance, including all spoil, discarded or unused papers.

Then, we had to package everything: making sure all material was correctly labelled and sealed, and all packages were tamper proof *(in the form of tamper evidence tape)*.

I started at 6:30am, and the whole thing wrapped up at around 12:30am, with some counting still occurring. Fun tymz.

So there you have it. Democracy in action. Election Day uncovered.

Basically, I never want to see another Senate paper in my life, and I'll happily avoid an 18-hour work day drowning in thousands upon thousands of ballot papers in the future. But, it's all in the name of democracy *(aka democracy)* amirite? Until next time, Australia.

(Maybe Town Hall can entice me back with a good ol' #democracysausage.)

/



CREATIVE

HOME IV

W / BRITTNEY RIGBY

A / CASSIE BELL

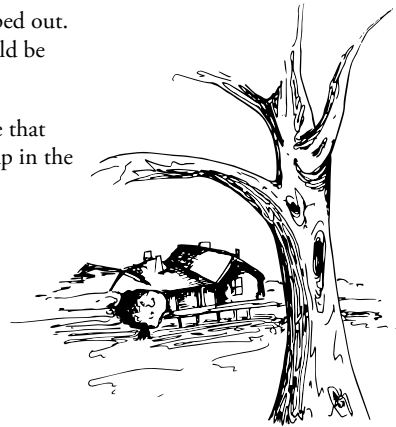
My grandfather used to be a carpenter.

He knows all about how to make a roof and walls and rooms and shelter where there was once nothing. He's almost eighty now, but he still works as an estimator. He used to build places, but now he calculates how much it will cost to demolish them. He explained it to us over Christmas lunch.

First, you have to calculate how many tons of bricks, concrete, tiles and material there is. Then, it's a matter of how many machines will be needed to knock all of that down, how many trucks will be needed to pick it up and take it to the dump. A lot is recycled. Roof tiles are pulled off and reused, concrete and bricks ground down and reprocessed, turned into something new.

Grandpa told us what would happen to our house. First, the asbestos would have to be removed, and the air levels measured to ensure there weren't any particles still in the air. The roof tiles would be pried off next. And then, it would just be hit and beaten until it fell in on itself. The walls that I knew and loved would be crunched up. The carpet would be ripped out. The concrete by the police station would be pulled up.

And, like a missing tooth, the space that held our home would become just a gap in the street, somewhere to be filled in.





ANTHEM RE-WORKED

W / CAM KENNEDY

Australia's sons let us re-Joyce—and re-Hanson—for we are young and racist. We've golden soil and wealth for the wealthy, who like to keep their wealth and not share it ever. Our home is girt by sea, rife with refugees in their sinking boats—a parallel could be drawn with Cook and his men but I think the definition of invasion or discovery or asylum or courage needs to be rewritten.

Our land abounds in nature's gifts of beauty, rich and rare; that Gina likes to dig up and sell to other countries while getting amazing tax cuts that line her pockets, and because trickle down economics is actually the world's longest standing prank, the only cuts the workers who sell their bodies to mine the coal will see are the ones they create in our crust. In history's page, let every stage have a major atrocity; the Stolen Generation, the White Australia policy, off-shore processing etc.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross, we'll toil with hearts and hands, but the Libs will toil with our socialised health and education because we need a budget surplus. To make our youthful Commonwealth—although the ageing population means wealth's not that common — renowned for Human Rights violations for those who've come across the seas. We've boundless plains to share but we also have Bird Shit Island and PNG by the balls, so let's deter people smugglers by locking up the vulnerable and innocent asylum seekers because our loyal sons have a right to eat meat that hasn't been sacrificed to Allah.

In courage let us all combine to advance Australia into the 19th Century with a terrible excuse for a National Broadband Network. In joyful strains, let's continue to deny marriage equality, to unadvanced, unfair Australia.

DEAR S

W / TOBY WALMSLEY
A / ANASTASIA PITT

Dear S,

My mother told me when I was younger that if you wrote a letter, and buried it in the garden, the words would seep into the ground and evaporate into the sky. The feeling would reach them, wherever they were. A shiver down their spine, a happy thought, a smile to begin the day. Or, if you were a little angry, they'd frown or have a bad hair day. I didn't believe her then. I was about eight, and I was a little beyond those sorts of fantasies. But I smiled and nodded to keep her happy.

I hope this reaches you because I don't think we ever connected in any real way. I'm not sure you can connect with anyone. Every time I felt we were getting closer, you'd laugh off something you said or a moment we'd shared. Laughing yourself away until you were just an object to spend time with, like a toy or a book. I could only be so patient before I gave up, but I regret that now. We treat people like things. So much so you'd think the world was made of string, being tugged and pulled one way or another.

The world is indifferent to the outpouring of love I sometimes feel towards things. You told me that I shouldn't feel this deeply about the world. Maybe you were right, and a little wrong too. Nature doesn't love us back, but that makes loving it all the more rebellious. The word apology doesn't really cut it. You roll out the red carpet for an apology. You unlock regret from a sorry. I'm sorry. I can promise I said farewell for more than just profit. There was an opportunity to start a new phase of my life, an exciting one, one you would never be a part of.

I can only be so angry. You challenged every idea, every action, every motive I had. You made me understand what it meant to believe in something. I live bitterly in that memory. A bitterness that reminds me what it meant to really fight for what you mean. I felt sad about that years ago but I don't feel sad about it any longer.

I doubt I'll ever see you again. But you might catch me in the corner of your eye one day and wonder if that was really me who drove past. You might catch me when you remember how to cut leeks the way I taught you. You might catch me in a great idea you have, remembering that time you launched an attack on another stupid idea I had in the middle of my second milkshake at an expensive boutique cafe.

You might catch this letter flying in the wind between us, its ink seeping into the ground, drying into the sky.

The words trip over themselves as you stumble into your house one day, and free themselves upon the stale and stony night.

With love,

K.

*Shortlisted entries will be published online in an e-book, launching in week 6.
The UNSweetened launch will be held at the Art & Design campus courtyard, during Artsweek, on Thursday the 25th of August.
Check out the Arc website for more information!*



ARALUEN

W / NATHAN MISFUD
A / ANASTASIA PITT

We descend in spirals, pup in lap, each turn
lush new angles dancing between the trunks.
The valley below hemmed by gentle peaks,
a hidden Eden waiting four hours from Eden.

Heady before we even set foot on the drive,
I swing the steel gate to be greeted by earth
in upward sweep from comatose river bank.

We spread mulch on she-oaks, macadamia,
ironbark, black wattle—three shovels each.
Distant yelps accompany our metal scrapes,
their sprightly source chasing shadow birds,
stirring paper wasps under the lip of the bin.

At noon, we pause to feast on hot cross buns
from Braidwood, a stillness rising in the half-
finished studio, tuned to the soft thud of a fly
swinging its fat body against the dusty glass.

Siesta over, I careen about the back paddock,
mowing hieroglyphics in my ten metre script.
With an endless roar, I evict myriad crickets,
cause roos to worm beneath fences in retreat.
Minutes vibrate to a blur as dark masses form,
sending cotton streaks to glide down the hills.

I press onward, encased in noise, wind, flecks
of grass stuck by sweat, reckless hairpins over
sinews of ghost prospectors, centuries of rain,
brow streaming, knuckles tight, air swollen—



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PUB

W / LAUREN BONNER

A / ANASTASIA PITT

The sticky walls, mate-knows-the-bouncer, off-campus,
Booze bath.

The regret what I said did, kiss, drink, spend,
Cesspit.

The karaoke king who really can sing,
Fucking depressing.

The vomit in your front seat, makes you want to break
up with me but not really.

The two of your cheapest beers thanks, because I owe
you one for finding my wallet.

The local smells-like-sick, sounds like a pokie choir,
with old mate melted in the corner.

The local that's kinda like fuck your life, music
throbbing and nostalgic,
Muffled through toilet stall walls.

The local that's local to shit all no one, whose
demographic is
cunts, dicks, and wankers
and Tom, Dick, and Harry.



THAT FEMINAZI ARTICLE THAT THEY HAD TO PUT IN

W / CHARLOTTE GOODSIR
A / LILIANA MARIA OCCHIUTO



Here is that story we were all expecting in a left-winged publication, from forward thinking university students. Ah yes, that feminist article that will probably go right at the back with no pictures so people don't feel intrigued to read it. By this point, the editors hope that you've put the magazine down, and this is simply something that you use to hold your computer screen up so you have better posture, or some yoga bullshit that you saw on re-runs of Oprah.

Now, how can we move into a world of sunshine and rainbows and feminists?

Well fear not, as the *He for She* change is already on its way, with many men racing to claim they are feminists. It begun when former Minister for Women, Tony Abbott claimed he was a feminist cause he has daughters that do the ironing. But Julie Bishop refused to be labelled a dirty word.

The reason why men can loudly claim to be feminists and not be worried for one second about using that term, is that they will never secretly be suspected of being a man-hater, the way that successful women fear they will be. But really? Julie. Babe. Honeypot. Sweet pea.

A little while ago, there was a lady who kicked up a fuss about having ovaries and suggesting, that maybe, just maybe, having ovaries didn't equate to being stuck at home ironing and making babies and being a human doormat. While she was making a bit of a fuss she changed the way other people thought and made women #equal, so they can get a job and be legally obligated to be paid the same amount as your male counterpart, which is dumb considering you are doing the exact same work. Even though most women are ridiculously over qualified for the job they are doing because it's the only way they can stay in the workforce. Then they have to go home, do the cleaning, make dinner and craft the Mona Lisa for little Jimmy's art project that's due tomorrow, because gender norms are still completely skewed towards the woman as a home-maker, even though that lady made a fuss all those years ago!



At the end of the day, we all need feminism, we all need those loud mouth feminists burning their bras and screaming in our face.



We need books and TV shows and this article that was shoved on the back page in the hope you'd miss it. We need to change the status quo that when a women gives an opinion she is a bitch. If a woman is considering a job in a male-dominated field, she needs feminism. If a man is considering going part-time to look after his kids, he needs feminism. Because feminism isn't a dirty word or something that only women can understand. At the end of the day, human rights are women's rights... And women's rights are human rights. We're all on the same team. Let's start acting like it. This has been angry feminist rant 2334.



REGULARS

SPOTLIGHT ON

W / A / CASSIE BELL



NO FEES

Dear Eds:

I write to applaud the recent decision of the Federal ALP Caucus to abandon the proposed re-introduction of tertiary fees. Tertiary students can now only view Senator Walsh with (real) distrust and disfavour!!

One can only wonder at an ALP Government that in the first three months of 1985 attempts to dishonour Party Platform by re-introducing tertiary fees and earlier claims that it has done more than any other government to stem the tide of the nuclear arms race yet only in the event of public outrage scraps its plans to host MX missile tests in the Pacific!!

When will the nuclear arms limitation talks promised by Mr. Hayden to be hosted by Australia take place? One can not help but be cynical and suggest that this "promise" was only a tactical one made in view of the amazing levels of support that true proponents of nuclear disarmament like the NDP and the Australian Democrats were receiving at the Federal election time.

What next Mr. Hawke??

Gabrielle Upton
Arts / Law III

GABRIELLE UPTON



In 1985, 20-year-old UNSW student Gabby Upton—a “budding industrial relations student” and soon-to-be lawyer—was gung-ho about justice. She believed in small business, in the rights of young people and workers. She was a member of the UNSW debating society, and the Australian Law Students Association. She supported the Australian Democrats and the Nuclear Disarmament Party. She was on all accounts, a woman who would make a formidable State Attorney-General.

Fast forward 31 years and our distinguished alumna has indeed risen to the top job. So in this special Foundation Day issue, we seek to answer the question: where is she now?

Where do you like to hang out?

My Electorate office is in Double Bay, so you can usually find me sipping rose or pottering around farmers’ markets. Dw, I always buy organic because the environment is really important... wait, only for food though. Not for like, mining and health and stuff.

What does being the Attorney-General mean to you?

I’m in charge of the NSW Department of Justice and according to my job description, it’s my responsibility to: “Ensure the administration of justice in New South Wales is fair and efficient; consistent in the level and nature of penalties imposed under the law; observes the rules of natural justice; and preserves civil liberties.”

To me, this means taking away the freedom to think and act from the people of NSW, because acting in your own best interest is really tiring and kind of hard and wayyy too risky for the party—amirite? So I put those freedoms in the hands of the Police, ‘cause they’re trained to do, you know... stuff, and they really need more power. Before I came into office, they had these hilarious things called “public places” and there were just all these randoms in them all the time. Can you imagine!? Lol. Now police can stop whoever they want from going there, which is awesome.

What is your greatest achievement?

Probably when I changed council regulations so that people could no longer park their boats on the streets of Vaucluse for longer than 3 months. This was an issue that was seriously affecting peoples’ quality of life. There were multiple instances where residents would reverse their Mercedes into parked yachts, and European parts are like, really hard to find sometimes. I feel like I listened to the injustices voiced by my community and impacted a really meaningful change. We must continue to address the real issues and keep our cars and boats safe from harm.

What are you playing on Spotify right now?

I commissioned Flume to remix the voices of CSG mining protestors to a sick beat—those chants are actually kinda catchy if you just drown out the message. I play it on my way to the office to psych me up for a day of administering justice, because pocketing their voices reminds me of what a badass AG I can be.

What did you eat for breakfast this morning?

Acai.



AN HOUR FROM CAMPUS

W / P / JAYDEN RATHSAM-HUA

SOUTH DAKOTA (USA)

You'll find so many great places to visit within an hour's travel time of the UNSW campus. In the past, we've covered locales such as Bankstown and Manly, unearthing their hidden gems and micro hubs worth discovering and exploring.

Local, vibrant and eclectic. South Dakota (USA) is no exception. It's easily an hour from campus, provided you have access to a military grade Mach 3 Turbo Star-Screamer Jet Fighter.

Here are just some of the fantastic points of interest worth checking out if you have a few hours between lectures:

General Tso's Chicken

General Tso's Chicken is one of the most widely enjoyed bastardised Asian American dishes you'll find in South Dakota. Fried dark chicken parts in a batter of sugar; it tastes like the Declaration of Independence. When I stepped into the restaurant, I had low expectations. By the time I left the restaurant, I was worried that no future experience of my life would live up to the General Tso Chicken transcendence that had just graced my esophagus.

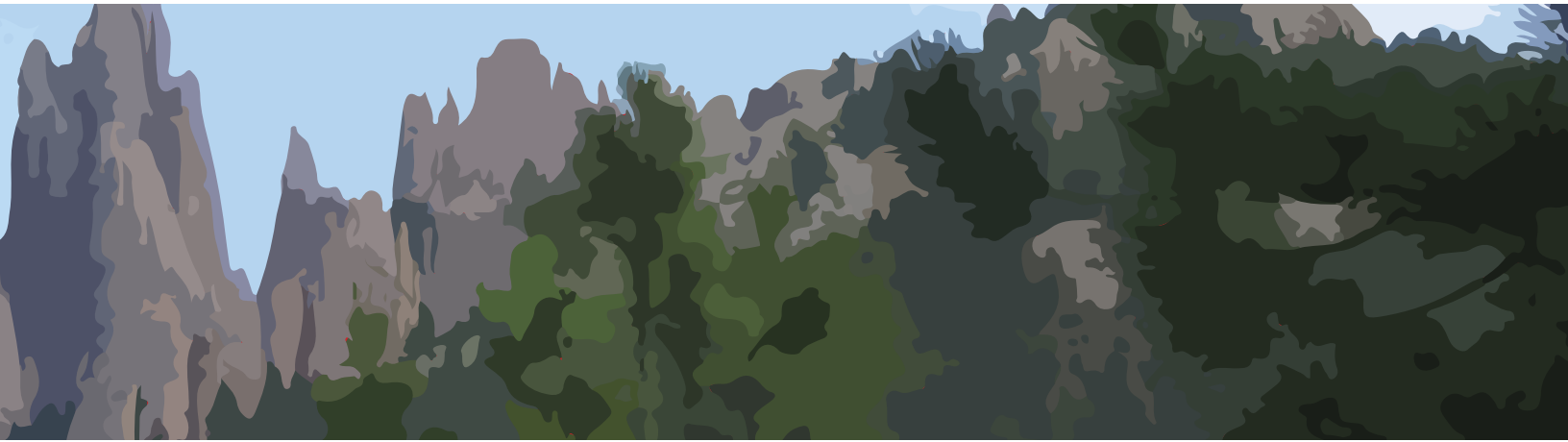
PS. Keep in mind that many restaurants in South Dakota serve the same dish, but none match this restaurant in particular. It's important to remember that not all General Tso's Chicken dishes are created equally.

PPS. I forgot the name of the restaurant. You'll have to try all of them until you find the dish I'm talking about. American food is real cheap so it's guilt free if you order the dish, take a bite and rush on to the next establishment.



Air Conditioning Unit

One of our greatest prides of the 'Hour From Campus' series is its focus on appreciating the beauty of the small things; the things that many people glance over without a second thought, missing a real opportunity to stop and smell the roses. In this case, I came across a breathtaking air conditioning generator at the back of the town church. Its low shaky drone and sleek boxy exterior instantly caught my attention. I was on my 5am morning run when I first came across the generator, and was still staring at it by the time the church congregation went outside for morning tea at 11:30am. Some church goers even joined in



on appreciating the beauty of the air con unit, sharing astute observations such as: “What are you doing at our church”. “Hello, do you speak English?”. “Ni hao”. “Leland, that’s how they say hello in Asia, don’t they?... ‘Ni-Hao?’”. “You’re scaring the children”.



Making Improvised Explosives

Now, I know you can make improvised explosives wherever you are, but doing it in South Dakota has a special cultural significance; the locals do it so much that it qualifies as being cultural! Here’s a picture of mine. It’s really simple to make.

All you need to do is [/_section/redacted/_].

You’re probably thinking: ‘Hey! Improvised explosives can be really dangerous when the kids you give them to are too young to understand appropriate safety procedures, let alone speak yet!’ Well I’ve only got one piece of advice for perfect peace of mind:

[_from:user_managing.editor//to:sub_editors//re.please/edit//: {Can someone please rewrite or delete this section? It’s not

appropriate and Jayden isn’t answering his emails. Thanks guys, sorry.//_}]



Mount Rushmore

I think this is the mountain where the rock formations look like faces. I didn’t have time to visit so I left this to last because I lost track of time and had class in 20 minutes, so I needed to rush back to Australia. I found this paper on the sidewalk and it’s meant to look like this but honestly it looks pretty boring.



And that’s it! Be sure to check out South Dakota next time your friends want to catch up for some coffee over a steaming dish of General Tso’s Chicken!



A MOON SHAPED POOL

RADIOHEAD

W / EMMA DONALDSON

This album is like walking up the stairs with a full cup of coffee, thinking there's another stair in the flight when there isn't. It's that hopeless millisecond in which you spill your coffee on the ankles of your jeans, as your foot falls through an emptiness that doesn't really exist *and* the excited breath of air you exhale when you find the top of the landing in one piece, all at once. It is the representation of the latter that is the remarkable and unique thing about Radiohead's ninth studio album.

Until now, Radiohead have made music that despairs the tendency of society to transform great truths into clichéd banalities, applying a fiercely cynical lens to all aspects of the mind and the hollow data it holds. *A Moon Shaped Pool* includes none of the lyrics sprinkled with everyday clichés and sung with a razor tongue that previous albums did, and seems to step away from cynicism altogether toward a more wholesome form of reality: excitement and amazement. Thom Yorke sings on 'Daydreaming': "this goes beyond me, beyond you", and he's serious. This track (*and indeed all on the record*) reveals a vulnerability and surrender we've only merely glimpsed to date.

The closing track of the album is called 'True Love Waits'. It's been drifting on the surface of Radiohead's canon for many years, having even been included in the 2001 live album *I Might Be Wrong*. With only a piano for assistance, Yorke paints remarkably ordinary images of "lollipops and crisps" and "swollen feet", and tears the listener from where they thought they were with the confession: "I'm not living/ I'm just killing time". Come the end of the album, I have learnt that the greatest truths in fact lay within clichés. The issue is that they take time to be excavated and understood fully, (*in this case, more than a decade of touring, writing and recording*).

It took me far too long to write this review because, as other Radiohead fans will agree, a personal connection to this kind of music is sometimes almost physically painful to share because it seems such a futile task. So, do yourself and I a good turn, pour a coffee, slip this album onto your stereo and walk up the stairs in the dark.

UNDER THE SUN

MARK PRITCHARD

W / AARON TAVERNITI

Warp Records has been on somewhat of a hot streak so far in 2016. Mark Pritchard's first LP for the label follows two stellar efforts from his countrymen: Bibio's *A Mineral Love*, and Clark's piercing soundtrack to the trans-European crime thriller mini-series, *The Last Panthers*. It is then perhaps no coincidence that those releases prepare one to consume *Under The Sun*, which combines the best of ambient, folk and minimal electronica, over a meandering and enveloping 16-track, 67-minute journey.

The album's opener, '?', originally released in 2009, sets a foreboding scene marked by a discordant piano drone and an equally abject, harpsichord-like synth melody. To this moody landscape, Pritchard has added a few key vocal features to help give his album its broad emotive range. The first, immediately following '?', is the Bibio-assisted 'Give It Your Choir', which pairs rich, heady harmonies with a whirling synth over a jumpy snare beat. Radiohead's Thom Yorke lends his heavily-edited vocals to the enchanting flute melody of 'Beautiful People', a folksy tune with lyrics like, "Angels stroke your head" that highlight the song's dream-like aura.

At the album's midway point, 74-year-old American folk singer Linda Perhacs assists Pritchard on 'You Wash My Soul', accompanied by delicately plucked acoustic guitar as she sings longingly of preternatural connections and experiences. Pritchard breaks up these drawn out moments of light with the short techno soundscapes of 'Infrared', 'Falling' and 'Hi Red'. These cuts challenge the listener with repetitive, circular mantras and penetrating synths, and can seem out of place on an otherwise ambient record. This jumping between genres should be jarring to the casual listener, and it is, until you give the album another end-to-end playback and realise that the balancing act Pritchard performs on *Under The Sun* quite simply works, and works well.

FRIDA KAHLO AND DIEGO RIVERA EXHIBIT

W / LILIANA MARIA OCCHIUTO

The Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera exhibition was truly a sight to behold. For any Frida freaks out there, this was an experience that can be described as nothing less than cathartic. The exhibition is one that opens with Frida Kahlo's iconic self-portrait *Diego on My Mind* (1943). When observing this charming self-portrait, a wave of euphoria washed over me. Merely standing in the presence of Kahlo's work was an experience well worth the ticket pricing.

With classics such as *Self Portrait With Monkeys* (1943) and *Self Portrait With Braid* (1941) alongside an abundance of archival footage, we get a genuine glimpse into the lives of both Frida and Diego. By incorporating sketches illustrating the beginnings of great works such as *The Henry Ford Hospital* (1932), the exhibition really allows us to make sense of how Kahlo's skills grew throughout her life. With select paintings from Rivera, we see a difference in artistic styles, but also get a sense of how they helped influence one another's work.

When observing the documented footage of Frida and Diego on screen, it is clear why so many people are captivated by Frida's powerful aura. Her enigmatic personality really shines through in the selection of photos and films documenting her life and available to us. By watching the two interact with one another in a film shot by Nickolas Muray, a genuine sense of passion can be seen between Diego and Frida.

The personable approach to this exhibition really captures the vivacity harboured by both Frida and Diego. It is definitely an exhibition that any art lover would live for – because honestly, not much compares to seeing the detailed brush strokes of Kahlo's brilliant work.

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ALL MY SONS

ARTHUR MILLER

W / TOBY WALMSLEY

"I'm his father and he's my son, and if there's something bigger than that, I'll put a bullet in my head!" - Joe Keller

Set just after the Second World War, *All My Sons* follows the tensions of the Keller family. Joe Keller (*John Howard*) worked making machine parts for aeroplanes with his business partner, Herbert Deever, during the war. When it transpires that some parts were defective, Herbert is blamed and sent to prison, whilst Keller continued the business and enriched his family. Herbert's wife (*Robyn Nevin*) struggles to come to terms with the death of one of her sons, Larry, in an aircraft accident, and with the frustrated and traumatised idealism of her other war veteran son, Chris. As Chris invites Ann Deever (*Eryn Jean Norvill*), Herbert Deever's daughter, back to their family home to get permission to marry, the hidden truths, compromises, ideals, and beliefs clash in this classic exploration of the American dream and frustrated post-war ideals.

The corruption of the American dream may seem like a quintessentially 60s concept to grapple, but the play's focus on the tension between bold idealism and indifferent pragmatism, is a tension felt by any person who has been obliged to sacrifice for their ideals. The interaction between truth and belief is explored with such poignancy in this piece that I found the moments hardest to watch were not those which were violent, but those where the characters were exploring their own conscience.

The acting from all characters was superb. Special mention goes to Chris Ryan (*Chris Keller*), whose performance was emotional and tense without cheapening the complex emotions of a traumatised war veteran.

The stage and lighting was well executed but mostly uninspiring. There were various elements that enhanced the play – the entire façade of the Keller home was moved back in the second act to emphasise the growing emotional distance between the characters. However, this element was too plain and functional, leaving too much to the imagination. This is not a critical component of a character driven play, but it was disappointing to see these elements underutilised.

All My Sons is a play that will more than challenge your belief: it will challenge how you believe, and how important the truth is to living a good life.

ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH POLLING PLACE, PADDINGTON, WENTWORTH

W / TOBY WALMSLEY

Despite its aged exterior and cramped courtyard, St George's Anglican Church offers the prospective Wentworth voter a rustic and exciting voting experience.

The outside courtyard provides various services expected of a good polling place: childcare and pet care, carefully separated to protect the animals from the feely hands of the children. There is the required democratic barbeque, although they had just run out of sausages when I arrived, which is unfortunately too common these days. I also noticed there was a boutique honey salesperson, which added a surprisingly youthful element to the Eastern Suburbs church.

Line chatter was kept to a minimum (*just the way I like it*). I had to wait only ten minutes before I was struck off the list and given my ballot. The interior of the building was made of beautiful, dark wood, with a chandelier hanging low from the ceiling. This made the atmosphere appropriately vampiric.

There was a slight issue with my senate paper – it was far too large, curling in itself in the tiny cubicle. I crossed out the names of numerous parties I didn't like the sound of, as a way of indicating my disgust to the AEC.

I loved the church vibe, but if you wanted to find God, you wouldn't find him here. He wasn't on the Senate or House of Representatives ballot.

Half way through voting, a cool wind blew outside. The chandelier swung and creaked. A dog barked, and the children fell silent. The fires of the barbeque went cold. Malcolm Turnbull had arrived.

Cameras flashed and clicked in the air like bullets of light. He entered the polling place in a hurricane: voters were thrown to the other end of the room as he completed his ballot. Men and women prayed in their booths, but there was no God, only Fred Nile, and that hardly counts.

Within moments he was gone. The wind stopped, the chandelier stilled.

Despite some minor flaws, I would nonetheless recommend St George's Anglican Church Polling Place to any Wentworth voters. It was the most pleasant voting experience I'd had in years.

LETTER FROM AN EDITOR ABROAD

W / JAYDEN RATHSAM-HUA

Hello guess what yesterday was the first time i ever left the country for a holiday because after playing with my mum's hair for 72 non-stop hours she finally said 'go on a holiday' and i was so excited to let her book me a vacation package called 'deportation' and now i am writing this to tharunka from the sunny beach of Guantanamo Bay. it's so nice here and everyone is so fun and they love to tickle you in the shower! my room is very square and the windows look like a zebra.

first of all my favourite part of my first day of holidays was going to the airport because they have so many fun games and equipments for you to play with to get in the mood for being a weary traveller. as soon as my mum checked me in i had to go by myself to a security checkpoint and boy it was fun to go through the screaming doorframe. i am happy to report that i also came first in the clothes game where everyone only took off their shoes and felt too cold to keep going but i was brave and took off all of my clothes for the magic black carpet and danced around so everyone could see that i won the game. even the security guards were so impressed that i got to skip the entire line and go in the special room as a prize. they even made sure that I wasn't hiding more clothes up my bum haha!

i am having so much fun on my holiday and i wish it would never end and guess what: I asked the security guard how long i can stay and he said i will stay indefinitely which means forever which means i will be on holiday for the rest of my life.

i have to finish soon because my paper is going to be confiscated and i am writing this with the blood from my finger and am about to pass out haha. but i know i will pass out happy tonight because i hear that more and more people around the world are going on indefinite holidays even when they are not expecting it and i am just grateful that more and more people can be sharing my overseas fun expiren-

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ENVIRO



Hey there UNSW,

The Environment Collective have spent our mid-year break gearing up for a huge second semester of action at a national convergence called Students of Sustainability in Brisbane, where we've learnt a hundred-and-one skills and ideas that will help us both engage further with students and staff on campus and tackle environmental issues affecting UNSW and beyond.

We're ready to head into semester 2 with a Fossil Free UNSW campaign that is stronger than an acre of garlic as we continue to encourage the university towards a meaningful dialogue with staff and students about its investments in the fossil fuel industry – investments that we believe strongly contradict both its claims of being a global university and its own ethical investments policy.

The Environment collective is super excited about a project being driven (*or should I say, pedalled*) by bike-ology and Bike Club: a bike hub. Keep your eyes and ears open about a space in which you can safely lock up and even shower after a sweaty ride to class. If you want any more info about riding, bike maintenance programs or the upcoming bike hub, shoot an email to bikes@arc.unsw.edu.au.

As always, if you have a concern about any environmental issue on campus, please don't hesitate to contact me at e.donaldson@arc.unsw.edu.au. Let me know also if you're keen on being involved with us.

Check out Semester 2 meeting times on the SRC website.

INTERNATIONAL



Travel Concession Campaign

Kaitlin Alexander (UNSW PGC) has written about the racist transport law, ripping off international students in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, in the hopes of encouraging the NSW government to extend travel concession to all full-time tertiary students, regardless of their nationality.

UNSW Response to Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment & Rape

UNSW has zero tolerance for sexual assault, sexual harassment and rape, and takes reports of this behavior very seriously. The International Collective has collaborated with the university to strengthen UNSW's response.

UNSW is able to offer students support by providing them with access to counseling, complaint procedures and advice from professionals.

INTERNATIONAL IFTAR FESTIVAL

Kelab UMNO Australia Sydney (KUASYD), Persatuan Pelajar Muda Sydney (PPMS) and Islamic Society of UNSW (ISOC) hosted the International Iftar Festival this year.

2016 CISA National conference

International officer promoted the CISA National Conference Awards, which showcase the contributions of the international student body.

Come and join our activities, or you can send your ideas to improve quality of international students' lives at international@arc.unsw.edu.au.

INDIGENOUS



The Basser College President approached the Indigenous society, seeking advice on how the college can be made more culturally appropriate and aware of Indigenous culture. The Indigenous Collective came up with the following recommendations, and plan on approaching other UNSW colleges, with the hope they will also help realise them.

Recommendations from the UNSW Indigenous Collective to help make Basser College more culturally aware and appropriate

The appropriate wording to use would be:

I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, the Bidjigal people of the Eora Nation and pay my respects to their elders; past, present and future and extend that respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people here today/tonight. We acknowledge that this land was stolen and never ceded and the ongoing struggles faced by Indigenous peoples in Australia.

- This not limited and an Indigenous person giving acknowledgement can speak about what they decide is relevant.

When should the acknowledgment be given?

It would be expected that the acknowledgement of country is given before any meeting and it should be the first agenda item at a formal event such as a formal dinner etc. Further, an acknowledgment can be included in official emails at the bottom as an email signature for e.g. Basser College

acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

Who should be giving the acknowledgment at each event?

At a coffee night, the UNSW Indigenous collective have been informed by Indigenous college students that there is usually a number of agenda items to get through. In this case we find it appropriate for the President to do an acknowledgment of country before coffee night begins.

At formal dinners and official events however, we recommend that the acknowledgement or welcome to country is only performed by an Indigenous student/person/Elder or Aboriginal community member.

What is the best way for the colleges to promote cultural awareness and engagement?

- During O-week, there could be a cultural information session to inform students about Indigenous peoples and grow their cultural awareness of past and current issues faced by Indigenous Australian and Aboriginal cultures in general. It would be appropriate to run this through Nura Gili.
- A different Indigenous student may say the acknowledgement at the weekly coffee night meeting each week. Students must be contacted in advance, so they can prepare.

- Official emails and documents to include an acknowledgment at the end or as a part of their email signature.
- Colleges to also acknowledge the past wrongs (*Frontier wars, Stolen Gen etc.*) and the continuing influences they have on our people today.
- A guest speaker once a semester on Aboriginal culture, which can be organised in partnership with Nura Gili or the UNSW Indigenous Collective.

What we've done so far:

- Collaboration with the UNSW Environment Collective
- Indigenous Student Collective to produce a report on what services are needed by Indigenous students at UNSW
- UNSW Indigenous Society attended Bangarra OUR Land People Culture performance at the Sydney Opera House on June 10
- Working closely with the editor of UnSweetened, Carla, on an Indigenous section. Looking to run a writing workshop with an Indigenous writer to encourage between 10-20 submissions.
- Supporting UNSW Indigenous Uni Games team at Trivia and Movie Fundraising Nights
- Every day heroes page is open if anyone/collective wants to donate <https://nigf.everydayhero.com/au/unswindigenousteam>





AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

IMPORTANT DATES:

FOUNDATION DAY

4TH AUGUST

