



## o-whata-week

Students Talk About the Apology  
Convergence on Canberra

IMAGE Robyn Buchanan  
**DOCUMENTATION PHOTO OF INSTALLATION**  
 COFA BFA in Sculpture Installation & Performance  
*Point of Purchase*



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the tharunka team 2008

Tharunka would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which the university now stands, and on which Tharunka is printed, the Cadigal people of the Eora nation. In doing so, we would also like to pay our respects to elders, both past and present.

Tharunka recognises that sovereignty has never been ceded. Furthermore, we express solidarity with Indigenous people in the struggle for land rights, self determination, sovereignty and the recognition of past injustices.

## EDITORIALS

Sydney's Rental Crisis 06  
STUDENTS TURN TO  
UNI HOUSING

Lets Talk About  
the Apology 07

Convergence on  
Canberra 10

Sex & Sensibility 12  
SAME-SEX ENTITLEMENTS

UNSW Student  
Representatives 14

What to make of  
the Rudd Era 17

Fossil Fools Day Protest 18

Reflections on my  
Civic Duty 23

Dear Editor	05
Uni News	05
Creative arts & COFA >ARTEXPRESS 2007	20
FREE STUFF	24
Library Guidelines	26
The Bellany's Barometer	28
891 Daily Commute	30
Miss Moore	31
Creative Writing & Poetry	32
Manifesto	36
Reviews	27



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## tharunka thanks

Publications Co-ordinator Jude Whitfield  
All our contributors. Ella Condon for Cover Image.  
Printers MPD - Printing the news everyday.

## tharunka says sorry

To readers for discriminatory language that appeared in the Race Edition in 2007 (the final edition last year).

The 2008 editorial team hope that such errors will not be repeated this year, and will actively uphold the new Tharunka Charter. Included in the Charter is the instruction not to include discriminatory material, or material likely to offend.



tharunka means message stick

# welcome

The editors of Tharunka welcome you, to the first edition for 2008 and in our 55th year of production - the longest standing student magazine in Australia.

Two questions you might be faced with: "What does Tharunka mean?" and, "What?! I never knew there was a student publication at UNSW." To answer the first, Tharunka means "message stick" in the language of the Cadigal people; the traditional owners of this land. And to answer the second, this is Tharunka, and you are reading it now. In fact, Tharunka is the oldest student publication at UNSW, long before Blitz was a twinkle in the eye of Arc's Marketing Department.

Whilst our aims for the magazine vary greatly depending on which editor you ask, we all intend on continuing the tradition of Tharunka being UNSW's social, political and cultural voice. We also hope for students to take a more active role in the publication. Of course, like all student publications, another goal is to be featured on *A Current Affair* or who knows – the dizzying heights of *Today Tonight*.

So, come to our office on Level 1 of the Blockhouse. Do not be discouraged by the packing tape that covers our windows. It is not meant to gag you, but instead to be a creative protest against technological frustration.

**Tharunka Editors '08**



## Dear Editor

Editor,

In 1908, when Rugby League began, nobody would have predicted World War 1 in 1914 and the year 1920.

So how can the 2008 Summit predict the future in 2020 and before 2020?

Yours predictably,

Alvin James

Have something to say?

### Get it published!

Attention all Letters to Tharunka

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Editor,

Channel Nine television stars do not retire.

They just move to Channel Seven.

Ever since Channel Nine signed up genuine superstars like Fatty Vautin, Bill Lawry, Richard Wilkins and Sam Newman, the writing has been on the wall for Ray Martin. After all, he never played for Souths.

However, Ray Martin will make an excellent personality on *Sunrise*, *Today Tonight*, *Mornings*, *Wheel of Fortune*, *Home and Away*, *the Midday Movie*, *the Beijing Olympics*, *All Saints* and any other Channel Seven television show.

Your Television Viewer,

Mary Jo Roche

Dear Editors,

Love your work. Tharunka looks hot - props to Penny. The letters page is a bit boring though. Why didn't we receive more letters? The only ones that arrived since last year were the work of one person writing under six pseudonyms.

We didn't even get any Valentine's Day emails!

Narcissistically,

the Editors

# NEWS

## ARTS FACULTY RESTRUCTURE

After the Arts Faculty Review in 2007, a number of so-called 'streamlining measures' were introduced, including a reduction in courses, majors and dismissal of casual staff. The majors available to Arts students will drop from 47 to 35 by 2009, and the number of first year courses on offer will drop dramatically. The faculty has also seen the dismissal of all casual teaching staff, which will require permanent staff to take up the workload. While casual staff may be employed again in 2009, this year's reduction in staff may have serious and lasting consequences for the quality of education offered by UNSW's Arts Faculty.

## Supplementary Transcript for Graduating Students

UNSW students graduating this year will be the first eligible for the new supplementary transcript. The transcript aims to formally recognise the extra-curricular achievements of students, and will be awarded alongside graduates' academic transcripts. Achievements recognised on the supplementary transcript, are those approved by the university and its related organisations, and includes Arc Office Bearers, Yellow Shirts and Peer Mentors. However, only achievements awarded after Semester 1, 2007, when the initiative commenced, will be recognised.

## UNSW SEMESTERS Drop from 14 to 12 Weeks

This year, UNSW will lose four teaching weeks as it converts from a 14 week to 12 week semester. The effects may be even more severe at COFA, which will lose 6 weeks, shifting from 15 to 12 weeks. The university has justified the move as a measure to create more time for research, and align its semester length with that of other Group of Eight universities. Others are worried that the changes are simply cost-cutting measures, which will reduce the quality of undergraduate education, as 14 week courses are crammed into 12, or in the case of COFA, 3 weeks are lost per semester. The changes will condense students' study load, which may make university more stressful, and affect students' other commitments.

## STUVAC 4 days 2008 to 6 days 2009

As part of the host of reforms to UNSW's academic calendar, stuvac, the break between end of semester and the official exam period, has been reduced from 6 days to 4. After protest from students, Professor Joan Cooper, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Students and Registrar has said that while the dates are set for 2008, the six day stuvac will be restored in 2009.



# students turn to university housing as sydney's rental crisis continues...

SCARLET WILCOCK

Sydney's continuing housing crisis has seen rental prices soar, putting strain on students seeking affordable and appropriate rental accommodation. The latest figures from the Real Estate Institute of New South Wales show the rental vacancy rate is at just 1.2%. Whilst this is a slight improvement on last year's low of 0.9%, the crisis is far from over. As students feel the strain of this tight market, they have increasingly looked to university housing to find

accommodation. In turn, the university's housing services are feeling the pressure.

Steve Ryan from UNSW's Accommodation Services Central (ASC) has witnessed the strain on students seeking accommodation first hand. ASC provides around 400 self-catered rooms on and near campus. Ryan says, "The biggest impact [of the rental crisis] is that as the supply of housing from the private sector has decreased, the demand for our self-catered accommodation has increased." He described the accommodation provided by ASC as "extremely affordable and is also local to the university and quite modern". He says that at the moment it is difficult to find similar accommodation elsewhere.

These places are highly competitive. There are currently long waiting lists, and Ryan admits that, unfortunately, many students will miss out. Ryan advises that students need to

get in early as "the main criteria is first in first served". There is some hope for students in the future with around 1000 places to become available in 2010 with the completion of the UNSW Student Village. Also, New College has started construction on an extra 319 rooms for postgraduates. These projects will undoubtedly reduce the strain. However, with the already pushed capacity of university housing, it is doubtful whether this development will provide enough places to cater for all those in need of accommodation.

There is also an issue of whether the current, and future, accommodation is truly affordable. Whilst Ryan encouragingly describes the university's fixed-accommodation as "extremely affordable", the increasing costs of private rents, general living expenses and tertiary education, throw this into question. The average cost for self-catered accommodation is about \$155 per week for a basic room.

IMAGE Martine Hodder PHOTO  
COFA Graduate BFA in Photography

*Mark in Pyjamas*

Mulwarree apartments fair best at \$135 per week. Yet for many students who rely on casual work and/or Centrelink benefits, this is far from affordable. The cost of the new Student Village (a joint venture of the university and private company Campus Living Villages) is yet to be announced. This partnership, whilst giving the university some control, will still be shaped by economic gain, potentially leading to even higher prices than the existing accommodation.

The rental crisis has undoubtedly put strain on students looking for accommodation. For many, even the university's accommodation will be too expensive which may prevent some students from completing their tertiary education or enrolling altogether. If this trend continues, public universities will become institutions only for the rich.

13 FEB 2008  
*Kevin Rudd says:*

S O R R Y

SCARLET WILCOCK

## Lets talk about the apology

On the 13<sup>th</sup> February, Australia stopped as Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, apologised for the “laws and policies of successive Parliaments and Governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss” on Aboriginal Australians, and in particular the Stolen Generations. It was only Rudd’s second day in Parliament, but something his predecessor, John Howard, had refused to do in all his eleven years in office.

The apology has been greeted with mixed responses. Some are hostile, but many more greeted the apology as a significant and necessary step in ending Australia’s racism. There are also many who insist the apology must be just the first step. Here’s what three Aboriginal students from UNSW had to say about the apology and what should be done now:

**LIZ WILSON** is a proud Jiman woman from Central Queensland. She is nearing the end of her Arts/Law degree at UNSW. Liz was in Canberra for the apology. (Seen in image)

What are your thoughts on the apology? "I think that the Apology has been a very long time coming. There are so many of us that never believed it ever would happen, especially in our lifetimes. My family (like all other indigenous families) has been affected by the forced removal of our ancestors from their lands and their families. The Honourable Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd truly addressed the real history of Australia no matter how uncomfortable it was for him to acknowledge the truth. The respect and empathy that Mr Rudd showed for the people of the Stolen Generation was admirable and I fully applaud the government on making a stance by apologising, also for acknowledging the real 'history' of our Peoples. My Great-Aunt could not make it to Canberra because it was far too emotional and hard for her to face. My Aunt was cynical about the apology and how it would be done, but the Prime Minister presented the apology with honour, strength and sincerity... Kudos to Kevin Rudd..."

What should happen now? "The apology has divided many and also brought together many people. I think education now is the key to ensuring that ignorance is not continued in this country. Education needs to be the tool by which the real history of Australia is taught. People are not born racist, they are taught it. Ignorance plays the most pivotal role in racism. Tolerance is a racist notion. We need to learn to embrace differences and understand each other. We need to educate everyone for true reconciliation to happen and for both indigenous and non-indigenous communities to move forward. We need to look at building relationships and protecting indigenous culture and we need to start now. This will not be an easy task. It has taken over 200 years to reach an acknowledgement and recognition of the injustices Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have been through, it will take more than overnight to fix the problems caused by these injustices. Our Honourable Prime Minister has started the path and has real plans to do as much as he can in his term(s)... All we can do is support this great leader..."

**ELISABETH HOFIERKA** is a third year Bachelor of Arts degree student.

What are your thoughts on the apology? "I believe that the apology was totally necessary and should have taken place many years ago. Not only was the apology to say "sorry", it was also about recognising what had happened to Aboriginal people and their families in the past. Australia's histories have mostly ignored or lacked true representation of the experiences of Aboriginal people for too long now. From these inaccurate histories, stereotypes and prejudices continue to disadvantage Aboriginal people in many ways. The only way for reconciliation and for Aboriginal people to obtain self-determination is for the past to be recognised and understood".

What should happen now? "That is the important question. I believe continual action for changes to achieve true reconciliation and self-determination is what is needed. The action that is needed now is not only the responsibility of the Australian Government and Aboriginal people to focus on education, health and housing for Aboriginal people but it is also the responsibility of non-Aboriginal people to actively think and learn about Australia's past and the experiences of Aboriginal people and their families".

**WARREN ROBERTS** from the Thunghutti nation of Northern New South Wales, and is currently in his fourth year of a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in history and politics. (UNSW Indigenous Office)

What are your thoughts on the apology? "The apology is a huge step for healing for the Stolen Generation, a sense of gain for Aboriginal Australia to move forward for a better future. It's like the land has been cleared of its weeds and rubbish. Ready for new seeds to be sewn for a better future. But remember we are all carers of this land and it is now up to us all to look after it, through equality for all Australians".

What should happen now? "Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people should now work together for the betterment of all Australians. True reconciliation can only be achieved through ACTION and I'll repeat ACTION!"



IMAGE 2008 Convergence on Canberra with Liz Wilson and daughters, Kaddie & Keah Chilly.



# CONVERGENCE ON CANBERRA

Scarlet Wilcock

On February Twelfth, our forty-second government had its first day within parliament; the building that adds so much to Canberra's monotonous symmetry. Meanwhile, thousands gathered on the lawns outside to send a strong message to Australia and the new government: roll back the Northern Territory intervention. The intervention was introduced by the Coalition government in its last months in office last year.

**The intervention is a legal exception to the *Racial Discrimination Act*, allowing the quarantining of welfare benefits, compulsory acquisition of land and the appointment of non-indigenous 'mission managers' to control Aboriginal lives and land.**



IMAGE TAKEN BY CLAIRE NEMORIN 2008 *Convergence on Canberra*.

This day was one to tell the new government not to follow Howard and Brough's racist policies; things have to change.

People had come from across Australia. Buses, cars and planes brought elders, their families and their supporters from the NT, from The Block in Redfern and from all the states and territories in Australia. We gathered first at the Aboriginal Tent Embassy, a living symbol of Indigenous political struggle. The Tent Embassy, now in its thirty-sixth year, is the oldest active protest site in Australia and one of the oldest in the world. On that day, the tent embassy's organic conversion of manicured parliamentary lawns into camping site and car park spread and swelled with the influx of so many protesters. The remnants of washing up, people's beds, and kids playing around the rose bushes, were all stark reminders that our nation's parliament was built on someone else's home.

The crowds banded around the sacred fire, as those from the Tent Embassy welcomed the protesters and stressed the importance of this day. The instruction was clear from Isabelle Coe, part of the Tent Embassy since its beginning. She told us to stay strong and together, and to let the government know, the intervention has got to go. We then set off

to march to the lawns of New Parliament House. We were led by elders and their families from the NT who have experienced the effects of the intervention first hand. Chants started, belted out with megaphones: "Stop the intervention, human rights for all". The crowd waved flags, carried banners and beat drums as chants came from front and back like Mexican waves, starting and stopping and running into each other, then starting all over again. When we reached the lawns, we listened to Aboriginal leaders from across Australia talk of their experiences, the intervention, and what must be done now.

The Welcome to Country in Parliament, and the pending apology, was greeted positively, yet still with wariness. There was a general sentiment that for these symbolic efforts to have real effect, they must be followed by active steps from the Government, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to stop racism, roll back the intervention and bring justice to Aboriginal people.

IMAGE Irene Teng **ILLUSTRATION SECTION**  
07 COFA Graduate BFA in Digital Media  
*I Love My Hooker*



# Sex & Sensibility

## *Nearing a Brave New World: Same-Sex Entitlements*

Chantel Cotterell

With the Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras behind us for another year, it is important that we now take stock and look past the raucous festivities, token celebrities and glamorous costumes (or lack thereof) towards the hard issues, namely achieving equality before the law. To celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mardi Gras, the theme was "Brave New Worlds". A theme that seemed all too appropriate as the nation likewise enters into – what is hopefully – a brave new era with a change in government at the Federal level.

The newly elected Rudd Government has continually expressed support for the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC) Same-Sex Relationships: Financial and Work-Related Entitlements and Benefits Report. In a media statement when the report was released the ALP stated, "action by the government is long overdue", and in a pre-election interview Rudd also stated that the HREOC report contained a "very extensive list that we have committed to". Post-election, *The Australian* reported that the Federal Attorney-General, Robert McClelland, has sought "bipartisan consensus" for HREOC's recommendations. The

report in question outlined 58 pieces of federal legislation that discriminate against same-sex attracted individuals and couples with an emphasis on financial entitlements.

For example, the report details how the *Social Security Act 1991* (Cth) discriminates and thus disadvantages same-sex attracted youth. This is particularly so for those aged between 16 and 24 who are studying full-time and seeking to apply for Youth Allowance. In order to qualify as 'independent' for Youth Allowance (YA) whilst living at home and thus receive the higher rate of payment (\$355.90 per fortnight as opposed to \$233.70 for 'dependents'), a young person has to prove that they are a 'member of a YA couple' as per s1067C.

This is problematic, as the definition is limited to heterosexual couples. The HREOC report states discrimination on the basis of sexuality with regards to social security entitlements is in breach of the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) to which Australia is a signatory. Furthermore, if a young person fails the 'independent' test, a personal and parental income test

is undertaken when determining how much the individual will receive in Youth Allowance. This often results in the amount received being dramatically reduced.

HREOC recommends that it be inserted in s1067C that a 'de facto partner' or 'de facto relationship' likewise be recognised. Such a relationship would be added as a new definition elsewhere in the legislation to include same-sex couples. If this were introduced, individuals such as the 19-year-old university student who reported to the National Inquiry that she did not qualify for 'independent' Youth Allowance due to her yearlong same-sex relationship would be eligible for the full amount.

Consequently, it is important to remember that whilst the media mainly focuses on gay, lesbian and bi-sexual youth in regards to suicide, coming out and sexual discovery, same-sex attracted youth are not only in long-term relationships, but also cohabiting.

What to do? Write to daily newspapers about the HREOC report and contact your Federal MP. In addition to this, donate to the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby (GLRL). The GLRL

recently launched 58 '08; a campaign that seeks to have the recommendations implemented by the end of the year. The GLRL has been gaining publicity for 58 '08 via a float in the Mardi Gras highlighting the areas of discrimination. It has also been encouraging members of the public to lobby the Federal Attorney-General via their e-form on their web site ([glrl.org.au/58](http://glrl.org.au/58)). Through such measures it is hoped the changes will be underway by the end of 2008.

The signs are indeed promising. *The Sydney Star Observer* reports that the HREOC Human Rights Commissioner, Graham Innes AM, recently met with Federal Attorney-General, Robert McClelland MP, to discuss the recommendations. With such support and campaigning by peak bodies including the GLRL, it can only be hoped that in 2008 we truly are entering a "Brave New World".

For more information visit [www.glrl.org.au/58](http://www.glrl.org.au/58)

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## Hello and welcome to the University of New South Wales!

If you came straight from high school, you'll soon realise the absolute freedom of university. No more strict 9 to 3 schedule. This freedom has its positives and its negatives. The good side is you can choose to structure your life and study in a way that best suits you. The bad side is that sometimes things seem quite confusing and its easy to feel unsure of what your rights are. But never fear! Your Student Representative Council is here! We live in the Arc@UNSW office down at the Blockhouse and we make sure you have a solicitor and advocacy officers that are dedicated to helping students. But, you must be a member of Arc@UNSW to access them. Think of it as your insurance in case you run into any trouble at uni and for \$2.86 per week (\$149 for the whole year), you can't afford not to be a member!

Another thing you might quickly realise is how easy it can be to make improvements to the world around you, whether small or big, or at least get your views heard where it matters. If we work together, are organised and find our common goals, who knows what we can achieve. Your Student Representative Council is where the action is.

For example, your Student Representative Council successfully lobbied the university to reverse their decision on reducing our Study Vacation at the end of semester from 6 days to four days for 2009. Unfortunately due to government policies, the university cannot alter this year's academic calendar because they need to give students at least one year's notice of academic calendar details. We would like to thank the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Students) Professor Joan Cooper for this improvement.

So come and visit your Student Representative Council at our stalls at O-Week and find out what your student representatives are up to this year!

Education and welfare issues are what make life tough for students. If you're passionate about making life easier for students, get involved in the Education and Welfare collectives. You'll meet cool like-minded people, and there are nibbles provided too!

What follows is some stuff I've been working on. What's great about being involved in a collective is that you get to decide what you do, and then you all do it together. Once you go collective, you'll never go back!

Demand a Better Future: Fund our Education University students around the country are campaigning for a better deal. There will be a National Day of Action on Wednesday 19/03/08. The campaign has the following demands:

- Scrap VSU
- End student poverty
- Abolish full fees
- Decrease HECS

In the first year of a Labor government, there is massive potential for us to have wins on these issues. There is a great sense of hope and optimism. Let's capitalise on it and make sure we win this campaign.

### FREE BREAKFAST CLUB

We recognise that students are so time poor they often skip breakfast, so every Wednesday morning from 8:30am to 9:30am, the Welfare Department runs the Breakfast Club! We provide toast, tea and coffee. It's in front of the UNSW library, so come "get toasted" with us.

### ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

The Arc Student Representative Council has been arguing for fairer assessment, and the university is now reviewing assessment procedures. We want to make sure that you get better information when you're given assignments, and make sure that all assessment is anonymous.

The Education (odd weeks) and Welfare (even weeks) collectives meet on Tuesdays from 1pm to 2pm, in the Blockhouse.

I'm Claire the newly appointed Kensington Women's Officer.

Over this sunny and funny summer I've been settling into the role. Part of this entails meeting amazing people who work on campus to help students. Student services can offer specific assistance to women because we sometimes have different needs.

More specific information is in the 2008 Women's Handbook which is available in the Women's Room, Level 1, East Wing Blockhouse and during O-Week. Preparing for O-Week has been exciting. Come check out our Women's stall to find out what we do, for lots of great information about gender issues and women's organisations, a security whistle, and to pick up your free Women's Goodie Bag.

For curious beings: the Women's Department and your Women's Collective represent women's diverse interests, identify structural sexism, get active around gender issues and discrimination, and help to facilitate women's empowerment and fun times. Members of the Women's Collective aim to enact personal and collective change

because you know . . . women can do anything!

**Any person who is or identifies as a woman can relax in the welcoming Women's Room, open 9-5 Mondays to Fridays.**

Get active!  
THE KENSINGTON WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE Meets Thursdays 1 - 2pm in the Women's Room (Kensington).

THE COFA WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE Meets Wednesdays 1 - 2pm in the Womyn's Room (next to the Common Room in the E Block, COFA Campus).

We'll be preparing for Week 7's Women's Week, with an already-scheduled workshop covering women and assertiveness skills, and a gender and sexuality play. If you're a woman with special skills (that means you), and would like to share them with other women - get in touch!

Also, if you're a woman who writes or wants to get published for the first time, contribute to the Women's Tharunka with a 500 word piece (1 page), a maximum 1000 word piece (2 pages) or your art by May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Feel free to contact me, if you have any questions, are a woman with a grievance, or want to participate in any way.

In sisterhood...

"You can develop the right attitude toward others if you have kindness, love and respect for them, and a clear realization of the oneness of all human beings."

The Dalai Lama, 1989 Nobel Peace Laureate



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## Racism sucks if you live in the world...

Hail, the New Year has come upon us!

Yet racism still exists, Australia's indigenous people still have no treaty, people still "live" in detention centres and refugees are tut-tutted for not easily assimilating into the dominant culture.

But never fear, I believe that we uni students have a role to play on- and off-campus in stopping racism.

Hello! I'm Angie, the Anti-Racism Officer for this year. I've always found racism hard to talk about, as it's not common to speak of it openly, but I think that's the main flaw in properly addressing these issues in Australia. So I'm ready to drive this anti-racism movement within UNSW with your passions, ideas, experiences and theories of change!

"But how?" you say.

Woohoo! (hyped up voice) - Respect!  
... Introducing the student Anti-Racism Collective:

Simply striving to discover the root causes of racism, the varied racist forms that appear, working in solidarity with other interest groups, raising awareness and promoting cultural harmony.

We're talking race-based prejudice, violence and various oppressions. We're talking about using race to act superior and dominate over others. We're talking about cultural and political structures targeted at the "visible minority" and the unequal power relations that exist within our society.

And we're bringing race issues back on the agenda!

### LOOK FORWARD TO HARMONY WEEK.

Check out Week 2 Blitz's for details.

So if you dig social justice issues and human rights, the collective is the space to put race issues on the agenda, learn more, brew some sweet ideas and (with my logistics prowess) mature these ideas into empowering actions!

ANTI-RACISM COLLECTIVE

Meets every Thursday 12-1pm the Quad Lawn

Hey everyone,

Welcome to a new and exciting year. And yep, it's going to be a pretty exciting year as COFA students start pulling together to revitalise our student union, and fill it with life and creativity and the power to make positive change in an environment that sorely needs it.

Most COFA students know how easy it is for a small campus like us to get lost (or be ignored) within the larger scheme of things and this year, we aren't going to let it happen. For one thing, a lot of us here want a better education system, an education system that values students as people. Not as numbers or money-bearers or immanent workplace recruits, but as people of inherent worth. We want an education system capable of giving everyone the opportunity to learn broadly, experience, explore, experiment, develop, share, challenge, imagine, reflect, initiate, create and ultimately be who we want to be and get where we want to go.

It's a great relief to have a new Labor government in power in Australia, to loosen the stranglehold on universities and society at large. However I think it's fair to say Rudd is no grand progressive, so it falls to all of us to push for the big changes we want and need to see. So let's get some creative activism, some "artivism", happening at COFA and at Kensington and anywhere and everywhere. Let's focus on and pursue the issues we care about.

This year, we have a women's collective, a new enviro collective and a student activist collective for you to join. There's also a lot of help available if you want to form your own society of absolutely any sort. So get involved!

Soar high and wide and enjoy 2008.

Welcome new and returning students to 2008!

Clubs and Activities (also known as Student Development) have been working hard over the holidays to plan a huge year.

So what does the Clubs and Activities Management Committee do? Essentially, we're here to develop student leadership and employability skills at Kensington and COFA, and to create opportunities to have fun and get involved. We are a student committee that oversees four Arc services for our student members:

- Clubs – support, funding and promotion for Arc Clubs
- Programs – Arc's volunteering and leadership development programs
- Courses – employability courses
- Activities – for learning or fundraising and fun

For COFA students reading, you can be involved on the Committee as there is a COFA Representative vacancy. Email me or visit Arc office for more information.

In future reports I'll share in more detail what each service entails. If you'd like to know something in particular let me know!

I'd like to take this chance to invite anyone who wants to ask anything to email or visit me in the new Student Development home on Level 1 of the Roundhouse. Feel free to ask about improving the services to Clubs, starting a new Club, or improving or starting a new volunteering program. Look forward to seeing you!

I know that assistance with a disability or a special need during one's time at university, or indeed within the wider community, can make life so much easier. It makes it possible for one to be fully immersed in the quintessential student experience, on par with other less disadvantaged students. I know this because I've been in the fortunate position to have that assistance. However, over the past years and months I have seen that sometimes people are not so fortunate. The reason is that it's nearly or apparently "impossible" to accommodate their disability or special need, or that those in the administration are ignorant about it, or that there is not enough information available to those in need of assistance, or simply because the disability or special need does not fall under the categorical definition of it in some, obviously very lacking, discourses.

I understand all this, and my position in the Student Representative Council is one from which I can advocate to, apply pressure upon, and liaise with the university administration, government and wider community. This is, however, a reactive action that depends predominantly on your contact with us. We also do take proactive action by informing students during events such as O-Week and continuing to advocate for older cases and issues which have yet to be resolved.

I attend both the COFA and Kensington campuses studying Art Theory and Law, so I am able to meet anyone, anywhere! I'm looking forward to meeting you some time in the future!



Jacqui Mumford &amp; Maria White

**ENVIRONMENT CONVENERS**  
Student Representative Council

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Who are UNSW's Environment Officers for 2008?

I'm glad you asked. They would be Jacqui Mumford and myself, Maria White. We will be the student contact points for all things (well... most things) environmental. We are part of the Environment Collective, which is a diverse bunch of switched-on, environmentally-conscious students who meet every Wednesday at noon on the Quad Lawn. Everyone is welcome to come along, have a chat and enjoy some Food Co-Op goodies.

At the moment the Environment Collective is busy getting the Stationery Re-use Centre (SRC) ready for action. The SRC has moved to QUAD1001A which is on Level 1 of the Quadrangle building. There you'll come across paper, folders, binders, rulers, calculators and lots of other things that you usually pay for at this time of year. It's the place to be if you like free, environmentally-friendly stuff.

We are also gearing up for Fossil Fools Day which will happen on the 1st of April. Fossil Fools Day is an international day of action against climate change. It seeks to draw attention to the dangerous level of carbon that is emitted as a result of the world's dependency upon fossil fuels. If that sounds like your thing, come along to our meetings.

Plus, as it's O-Week we have an awesome stall along with the rest of the Student Rep Council on the University Mall walkway. So, come and check it out and have a chat with someone about the Rep Council and what we do.

**2008 is going to be a huge year of environmental activism. Make sure you're a part of it!**

It is another year in uni, yet I'm still just as excited as if it's the first time. I believe that being in uni is not just about academic study. It's more than that! It's a big social place where you can learn almost everything. As an international student, I'm always very keen to gain experiences while I am staying in another country. It is a chance to try new things and by being part of this uni, international students should take that chance. Besides, it is one way to ease homesickness!

There are a lot of opportunities to be part of this uni, from volunteering to being involved in organisation. I invite all international students to actively contribute in uni's activities, both inside the international student community and being part of International Student Department of the Student Representative Council.

Being active might also be one of the survival keys in studying abroad. For example, uni does require its students to actively find information for themselves. It is also crucial for international students to actively find out about their rights while studying in Australia. By knowing your rights, you can protect and defend yourself against unfair treatments.

By knowing issues surrounding international students, you can fight for your rights and get a better study environment and welfare.

**It is your time to start to get involved and be active!**

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

What's On During O-Week?

Here at the UNSW Queer Department we are very excited to be presenting all queer/GLBT students with a stall full of fantastic information (we're the ones in pink, next to Women's). Come by and check out what's going queer in 2008! We have flyers for our week 1 welcome party and movie night, as well as a very handy handbook for all things GLBT/Queer at UNSW. We also like to encourage safe living so come by and pick up your free safe sex packs and information about homophobic violence and what you can do about it.

**To introduce you all to our fantastic department, we also have an induction for all queer/GLBT students of UNSW.**

Monday & Thursday 12pm – 2pm  
QUEER SPACE (RM 920 Chemical Sciences Building)

\* Free food and drinks provided

**Mardi Gras 2008**

By the time you read this the UNSW Queer Collective has already enjoyed a fantastic weekend as part of the Cross Campus Queers Mardi Gras float, combining with universities from all over New South Wales.

An exciting night for all GLBT/Queer communities and it helps to kick off a great start to any university year. The theme for our float in 2008? Children of the revolution: What do you do with your freedom? This theme should remind all you fantastic people that we can now enjoy freedoms, which were fought for us by previous generations, and that we need to continue fighting for freedoms still denied to us. What do 'you' do with your freedom?

UNSW QUEER COLLECTIVE

**When can we meet every week?**

Queer Collective meeting will be held in the Queer Space every Thursday afternoon from 4:30 to 6:30pm. Food and drinks will be provided.

Time to Party! Get a flyer from our stall about the upcoming welcome drinks!

It gives me great pleasure to be the Indigenous Officer for 2008. To me, this is just a title. It doesn't mean anything unless something is done. So this year I'll try and make Indigenous Australia shine at UNSW. It's going to be a challenge for me, but remembering all the challenges that we've already overcome gives us more belief to overcome others.

To make this work I'll be talking with all students to get an understanding of what you (the students) want to learn and understand about Aboriginal culture and people. Currently, I'm also co-ordinating Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Programs in high-schools across Sydney and country NSW.

At UNSW I've come up with a group called YARN. The basic concept is a group of people who select a subject area or issue regarding Indigenous Australia to discuss with family and friends. It's easy once the subject is selected. There is also a website that people are referred to, so we can be educated on the issue. YARN is about letting people know about what is happening in Indigenous Australia. If this sounds like something that you would like to get involved in, send me an email.

Some students may know more than others, but it's just a great opportunity for all students to have an understanding as a collective. Remember, it's not that we don't want to learn about Aboriginal Australia, it's just that we don't take the opportunity to want to know. The question I want to ask you is: are you willing? If so then lets work together and make it a reality. Come on!

Everyone is welcome to join YARN.

**WEEKLY MEETING**

MONDAYS 4 to 5pm - In front of the Library.

Dayne Stevens

# what to make of the Rudd era

The spectre of John Howard no longer haunts our campuses. After eleven long years of racism, militarism and some of the fiercest union-bashing in Australia's political history, the millions of ordinary people who bore the brunt have finally sacked him. Good riddance. With Kevin Rudd and his new Labor government running the show, students might well be tempted to breathe a sigh of relief, feeling safe in the knowledge that their voices will now be heard and their rights now upheld. However, if you share both disgust at Howard's agenda and joy at its rejection last November, then it's worthwhile reflecting on what a Rudd government will really mean for students.

The Rudd government came to power last year with a mandate to reverse Howard's right-wing political agenda. Unfortunately, we can't take it for granted that this will happen. Rudd is still financing tax cuts for the rich, slashing social spending and escalating our involvement in the occupation of Afghanistan. Why should he differ on student issues? VSU is set to remain firmly in place under the Rudd government. By painting this bleak picture of the political situation, I don't mean to dim anyone's hopes of a better future. If we do want the Rudd era to be an improvement, we'll need to fight for it.

Students have been fighting for their rights for a very long time, and have enjoyed the fruits of past victories. The rights we defend today are the fruits of past victories. Our task is to keep up this fight. We can't sit idly by and trust the government to uphold

our rights. Neither can workers, women, queers, immigrants or anyone else being exploited and oppressed. The recent apology to the stolen generations is a case in point, an inspiring victory for indigenous people. It was only won by indigenous activists fighting for it, long and hard, throughout decades of changing governments. The same goes for students. Stronger student unions, more vibrant campuses, more affordable degrees, the only way we can win any of these is by fighting for them.

Furthermore, the issues that affect students in our day-to-day lives are tied to wider political issues. Attacks on student unions are tied to attacks on trade unions. The tertiary education budget is the flip side of the military budget. Discrimination against international students is but one way systemic racism shows itself. The need for students to take a stand against injustices like these remains as urgent as ever.

The good news is, there are plenty of opportunities for students to get politically active early this semester. On March 16 there's the Palm Sunday rally (1pm at Belmore Park) against the continuing occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. March 19 is the uni student National Day of Action, giving us a great opportunity to assert ourselves politically and to ensure that the Rudd government takes us seriously.

**DAYNE STEVENS** Secretary of the Socialist Alternative Club at UNSW

# fossil fools day protest

Lauren Carroll Harris

## Let's green our fossil fuel-sick society.

The world is facing an unprecedented environmental crisis. Carbon dioxide is flooding the world at a faster rate than plants and oceans can absorb it, causing the Earth to heat up. Weather patterns are more extreme and unpredictable. Global temperatures have climbed on average 1.4 degrees Celsius since 1980. The polar ice caps are melting rapidly: the polar region may have its first completely ice-free summer by 2040. An article in the December 2007 issue of *Nature Geoscience* reported that tropical environments are expanding toward the poles, by 2.0-4.8 degrees latitude over the last 25 years. As this trend continues, Australia will become a fringe tropical zone, with increasingly scarce water.

It is not a natural cycle in the Earth's orbit that is causing global warming, nor the relatively regular oscillation between ice ages and warm periods, or even overpopulation. The burning of fossil fuels, unsustainable agricultural practices, the felling of forests, pollution of the sky and of the water are all carried out by corporations making their profits through plundering the environment. There are alternative ways to generate energy, provide paper and dispose of waste, but you won't find the mega-corporations promoting them.

The market doesn't reward sustainability. It rewards making a quick buck, even at the expense of the planet. Undemocratic and profit-driven use of land stops people choosing to use it sustainably. The governments who claim to regulate the abuse are elected on money donated by the abusers, and spend more time talking about avoiding action than taking it.

Meanwhile, things are getting worse.

If global warming is not halted and reaches a "runaway" or unstoppable phase, the sea level could rise by 18-59 centimetres by the end of this century. If this happens, *National Geographic* reports that the 100 million people who live within one metre of sea level will become refugees. The alteration of ecosystems could force 1 million land-dwelling species to extinction. The ocean's warm currents could slow, leading to a mini-ice age in Europe.

The scientific world has known about global warming for some time, but it is only now becoming popularly understood. As it does, people are demanding more action, and young people are in the lead. A February 2007 Newspoll survey found that 94% of Australian 18-34 year olds believe climate change is a big problem. Furthermore, the 2007 Australian Democrats Youth Poll found that 87% of respondents do not believe that the federal government is taking adequate steps to address climate change, an increase of 5% from the 2006 poll.

But there is a disjunction between the number of people who know there is a problem and the glaring lack of action to change the situation. The task of creating an environmentally sustainable world cannot be left to capitalist governments - the recent Bali climate conference

is proof of that. The conference failed to move beyond broad statements, and renounced any clear plans or goals to stop climate change. Walden Bello, a participant at the conference, noted that the "Bali Roadmap" dropped "any reference to the need for a 25-40% reduction in the greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2020 to keep the mean global temperature increase to 2.0-2.4 degrees Celsius in the 21st century". Governments tied to the interests of the big corporations won't take action that hurts profits, even if it would save the Earth.

Our government has refused to take serious action to stop climate change. So, the task of stopping the climate crisis is up to us.

Let's make our generation the one that steps forward to this task. Let's begin to create a world society that puts the planet before profits. Let's be the generation that dismantles the power of coal companies and other fossil fuel industry players, and pushes for a mass conversion to renewable energy.

There has already been some active resistance to climate change. For example, young people in Tasmania have been at the forefront of the campaign to stop the new pulp mill which would shred old growth forests. But the snapshots of action that we have seen are not enough. Neither individual lifestyle changes nor passive dissent will get us there. We must build a movement that is more ongoing, and more organised. We must sweep schools and universities with environmental activism. As students and young people, we have an important role to play in propelling the climate action movement forward and forcing the government to take the necessary action.

We need a movement that is independent of the conservative squeeze of the major parties. We must be free to criticise the ALP's inaction.

The dirty industries - coal mining, logging and oil companies - cannot be allowed to continue. Nor can the companies and governments that have profited from the plunder of the natural environment and resources that the First World is founded on. We need to demand that the cost of stopping the climate crisis is passed on to the same companies and governments that created this crisis. Ordinary working people have made substantial changes to their lifestyles already, now it's time for corporations and governments to do the same.

The situation isn't hopeless. The dirty industries are strong, but so are we. We can build a movement that can reach out and bring masses of people into motion. We can force our fossil fuel-sick society to make the changes that are needed. We have the power to force a big switch to renewable energy, to boost public transport and to keep energy resources in public hands, under public control.

April 1 is Fossil Fools Day, a day when we can stand together against the fossil fuel industries and other dirty industries that have been dangerously fooling around with the planet, and our future. Demonstrations on April 1 on campuses across Australia will help us build student environment collectives on campus, build the environment movement more broadly and move toward rebuilding the student movement.

Can young people  
solve the climate crisis?  
Let's make the answer  
a resounding "yes".

Let's start doing it -  
let's make it happen  
on April 1.



IMAGE Penny Spankie **DOCUMENTATION**  
**PHOTO OF VIDEO PERFORMANCE**  
COFA BFA in Sculpture Installation & Performance  
*Baggage*

## creative arts & COFA



IMAGE *Slide Reals* **GABRIELLA HIRST**

# ArtExpress07

ArtExpress 08 launched its COFA exhibition on 6<sup>th</sup> February, amongst champagne, hors d'oeuvres, and intermittent downpours. ArtExpress, in its twenty-fifth year, showcases outstanding HSC artworks from around the state. This year there are nine distinct exhibitions, displaying the 279 artworks selected, the principal exhibition being at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. There is also a selection of works at David Jones, and in a number of regional centres, including Wollongong City Gallery. Forty-three works are on display at COFA. The exhibition is open to the public until 19<sup>th</sup> March.

### *Slide Reals*

**GABRIELLA HIRST**

Queenswood School for Girls

Gabriella's body of works conveys the idea that tourists "never truly absorb what's in front of them" or are connected to where they travel. She extends this metaphor to life; although you may be present somewhere, you may not absorb or understand what is in front of you. Gabriella plans to study fine arts at COFA.

### *Cultural Concurrence*

**AVA SHIRLEY**

Queenswood School for Girls

Ava's body of work was inspired by a friendship with Japanese neighbours in her youth. This cultivated her interest in Japan and Japanese art. Her works intend to represent iconic symbols of Australia and Japan. Ava describes her body of works as peaceful and pleasing, representing her affiliation to both countries and how they coexist. Ava plans to study renewable energy engineering at UNSW, because she "loves everything", and "art is not the most practical career".

IMAGE  
*Cultural Concurrence*  
**AVA SHIRLEY**



### *Jackson Pollock*

**DIANA DREW** Merewether High

Diana's work represents "Jackson Pollock's death in the style of Jackson Pollock, inspired by an episode of Daria". She didn't like art at school, because it was "forced creativity". She overcame this by only doing her artwork when she was in the "perfect mindstate", which meant she only had to do it once.

### *Time, forward!*

**RAYMOND MAINBRIDGE**

St Ignatius College

"My artwork is a silent film edited in a very rapid way". This technique, creating a palpating visual effect, is intended to represent the technique and approach of late silent cinema. Raymon refers to his work as a "sycophantic satire" of silent film. But ultimately he says, "...I just want to hold everyone's complete attention for six minutes".

Raymon intends to pursue a bachelor of arts at the University of Sydney.

## STUDENT SHOWS

**ON NOW** till 19 March Mon-Frid 10am-4pm

**COFA SPACE**

**"ArtExpress 2007"**

Opening night **Tue 4 March 5-7.30pm**

**KUDOS GALLERY**

**"Stages"** Anthony Terrence O'Carroll

Continues till 8 March

Opening night **Thur 6 March 5.30-7.30pm**

**IVAN DOUGHERTY GALLERY**

**"Silk & Sand: Chinese and Australian Prints"**

Curated by Michael Kempson, Tang Cheung Hua & supported by Su Xin Ping

Opening night **Tue 11 March 5-7.30pm**

**KUDOS GALLERY**

**"Do Not Feed the Painters"** Bec Burnard, Jennie Holtsbaum, Julia Kennedy-Bell and Chris Wilson  
Continues till 15 March

Opening night **Tue 18 March 5-7.30pm**

**KUDOS GALLERY**

**"Praxis"** Continues till 22 March

Opening night **Tue 25 March 5-7.30pm**

**KUDOS GALLERY**

**"Disneylandslide"**

MFA exhibition of Emma Price (The Kingpins)

Continues till 29 March

## STUDENT GALLERIES



### **COFA SPACE**

Open  
Mon to Fri 10am-4pm

UNSW College of Fine Arts  
Campus  
E Block Romm EG04  
Greens Rd Paddington  
Ph 02 93850797  
Email [eps@COFA.unsw.edu.au](mailto:eps@COFA.unsw.edu.au)



### **KUDOS GALLERY**

Open  
Wed to Fri 11am - 6pm  
Sat 11am - 4pm

6 Napier Street  
Paddington NSW 2021  
Ph 02 9326 0034  
Email [kudos@arc.unsw.edu.au](mailto:kudos@arc.unsw.edu.au)



### **IVAN DOUGHERTY GALLERY**

Open  
Mon - Sat 10am - 5pm

Selwyn Street  
Paddington 2021  
Ph 02 9385 0726  
Email [idg@unsw.edu.au](mailto:idg@unsw.edu.au)



IMAGE Andrew Haining **VIDEO STILL**  
**FROM PERFORMANCE**

COFA BFA in Sculpture Installation & Performance

*ButterFuck*

# Reflections on my Civic Duty

Jack Gough

I've always thought that twenty-one was a bit young to be a father. In a little over six months, though, I expect to have produced a child. I won't know who the mother is. I won't see the child until it's eighteen, and probably not even then. If the child does want to contact me, it's more likely to be through letters than a face-to-face meeting.

This child won't be growing up without a father, though, and the mother will be grateful for my marginal involvement. Every month I give couples with male fertility problems another chance to conceive. I'm a sperm donor.

Sperm donation is a recent phenomenon. The effective legalisation of abortion in the mid-70s, and the associated drop in the number of children put up for adoption (from 2000 to only 75 per year) saw the establishment of donor insemination clinics, such as the one at the Royal Hospital for Women at Randwick, where I donate. Each year, about 1500 couples are diagnosed with male fertility problems, and are therefore candidates for donor sperm. An article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* that spoke of a "sperm drought" piqued my interest, and the prospect of doing something useful with what would otherwise be spilled upon the dust (apologies to the Bible) appealed to my sense of tidiness.

The question that was at the front of my mind, and the most common concern of potential donors, is whether they will be legally liable for the child. The hospital staff reassured me that this question was settled by a 1984 act of the NSW parliament, which established that where a husband agrees for his wife to be inseminated with donor sperm, he becomes the legal father, on the birth certificate and for all other purposes.

Legislation before the NSW parliament will mean that when children conceived with donor sperm turn 18, they will be able to access information about their donor father. However, to want to know who their biological father is, their parents must have first told them they were conceived with donor sperm. I'm told by hospital staff that despite parents giving assurances at the time of conception that they'll tell their children where they came from, only ten per cent actually follow through.

The whole experience is pretty strange. You talk to the doctor, have a blood test, and then get taken to a special room for you to, er, produce the specimen. It's weird. There's one of those sick beds they had in high school, and a magazine box with half-a-dozen of the most recent issues of *Hustler*, which they definitely didn't have in high school.

You want to know: did I get paid? Yes, but not enough for it to be a money-making scheme. The Royal Hospital for Women offers \$20 for each donation to cover travel costs. There are also some responsibilities additional to simply masturbating into a cup. You're required to have a blood test six months after each semen donation you give, which means that six months after your first donation you're going to be giving blood just as often as you previously gave semen.

There's also an interview with a social worker, to make sure you've thought about the consequences. I guess there's occasionally a guy who hasn't realised that a real human being will be born, embodying half of his genetic material. The social worker also asks about my interests. Well, masturbating, I guess. She says that children of donor sperm often want information about their biological father, to look for similarities with themselves. For example, the children my sperm produces will be relieved to discover that their compulsive neatness and disdain for fashionable shoes are entirely my fault.

There are, of course, endless hilarious possibilities that relieve the reverent sacredness of reproduction. For example, I get to name my children in absentia. At last, my chance to name a child Zulu!

There is also the discussion about the motivation of donors, which has given rise to an instrument I call the Altruism-Megalomania Scale. At one end, there is someone who donates to relieve the suffering of infertile couples; someone who thinks only of the joy of the new parents, and the modest nature of his sacrifice. At the other end, there is someone who is intent on raising an army, who has envisioned walking down the street in ten years and drawing his progeny behind him like the Pied-Piper, and commanding them to do his bidding, like robot zombie children. That's not me, though. Honestly.

## Free Stuff at Uni

Perry Stephenson

*Do you like free stuff? Do you want free stuff?  
Would you like to know how to get free stuff at  
uni? You seriously want me to tell you how?*

If the answers to these questions are: yeah; I guess so; why not; and get on with it you tease, then you are reading the right article.

First of all: to be reading this article you have already got free stuff. Tharunka is free. If someone made you pay for it, you've been had. If you borrowed it, keep it. It's not stealing if it's free!

The next step to getting free stuff is to have a look around O-Week. Last year I managed to get six free songs on iTunes, a water pistol, a cup of Lipton Iced Tea, a cap, a t-shirt, and three free beers. I also got a free upsize for my quadruple quarter-pounder meal (yes, that's a pounder!) at the McDonalds on Barker St. Some of the stalls will make you jump around on one leg whilst screaming the name of their sponsor, some will ask for your picture (creepy!), some will ask you to record a ripping solo on their particular brand of computer, and some might just give you stuff for free! Normally the companies are more likely to give you stuff because they have money to spend on advertising, student societies won't give you squat. It certainly won't hurt though to just go up and ask someone if they have any free stuff.

Oh and check out FM Assist too. If you ask nicely and give them some ID, they will give you a free student card!

### TIP FOR NEW PLAYERS

Beware of anyone who asks you to sign up for their society or club in exchange for goods and services. They normally charge fees, and if you pay fees it is no longer free!

Once the honeymoon is over and normal uni life begins, it becomes a lot harder to get free stuff. It's not impossible though, so don't give up. The following places are good to start with:

**Societies** Despite their stinginess during O-Week, the societies start to come good later in the year. Some societies have free barbecues, others have cheap ones. Make sure you only join societies with free BBQs. Normally the Engineering societies are the only ones with free BBQs, so if you like free food you should make sure you are doing an Engineering degree! Arts societies don't normally even have BBQs. Science societies do have them, however I went to one once where they charged me for the food but gave me a free shirt. I think I won. Just remember that BBQs are normally only free for members of that society, you may have to pay a small fee for them if you aren't a member.



**Uni Bar** Every week in the Uni Bar a bunch of noisy and smelly people get together and play trivia and bingo. Both games are a lot of fun, but more importantly give out free stuff to pretty much everyone who plays. I got a cowboy hat and a tube of sherbet last time I played bingo. Obviously you get more stuff if you win, and winning is easy! You can cheat very easily by:

- Having a very large team and therefore more brains
- Spying on other teams
- Using mobile phones to get answers from a relative/friend who is bored at work and has internet access
- Using your own laptop to get answers as you go!

This one is a bit obvious though, so you will probably get caught.

As for bingo, there is no real way to cheat. Winning does involve running, so as you get close to completing a box, pull your chair out and make sure your path is clear. Moving closer to the front will also help. And if you see your friend only needs the same number as you, make sure you push them out of the way as you start running! (Sorry Matt...) Plus you can play as many cards as you like, but they read the numbers pretty fast. So the maximum you can play at once is probably three.

**Library** Whilst you might not get any tangible free stuff, it's worth noting that borrowing from the library is free. Also the large numbers of computers in the Library are also free to use, and have internet access. Login is your student number with a "z" in front of it, and the password is your Unipass.

**Bookshop** When you buy books from the bookshop, they may offer you a dip into their lolly jar. They don't set any sort of restriction on how much you can take, so go nuts!

**Contact** CONTACT "provide you with a friendly place to obtain information on just about anything" and are located in the Quad building. On their website they advertise the following free stuff:

- handbooks;
- maps;
- pamphlets on a wide range of topics – including relationships, STDs, contraception, HIV/AIDS, health clinics, counselling services, volunteering info, Centrelink;
- condoms, lubricant, tampons, bookmarks;
- Arc-produced and various University publications.

And that's pretty much it for free stuff! There are a few other little things of course, like Unicom Credit Union, who will give you free bank accounts if you are a full time student, and Nextbyte, who sell Mac computers and will give you free coolness if you buy a Mac! Apart from that though, good luck hunting for free stuff!



Chantel Cotterell

## Library Guidelines to Guide the Potentially Misguided

From Freehills to COFA to the Main Library, UNSW's book repositories can be places to avoid for the academically reluctant or a home away from home for others. With the physical collection "on the move", the Main Library is particularly bewildering. A hint? Check the notice board in the Main Foyer for that elusive book. But, alas, this article is not about successfully navigating the library. You can book into one of the many tours that will be held during O-Week to learn that. Rather, this is about library etiquette and what you should, and moreover what you should not do, when in any of the libraries. You know, just so all students can get along and be part of the UNSW "community".

### Without further ado...

**1. NOISE!** Similar to leaving caps lock on when chatting with your MSN buddies, it is best to avoid it. Believe it or not, a library is a place to study. Yes, this can be a shock. In particular, a rather big no-no is playing your iPod so loudly that the person beside you can hear that even though you do not look like it, you are a fan of Britney "Piece of Me" Spears. Chewing chips with or without your mouth open is likewise not an option. Never. Especially when combined with blaring headphones that are only turned down when your polyphonic ring tone signals a twenty minute conversation that is accompanied by high-pitched squeals and grand gesticulations. Remember that silence can be golden.

**2.** If you take a book off the shelf, please put it back in the correct spot or at the very least on the sorting shelves. This will assist library staff and moreover the stressed-out students taking the same Level 1 course as you. So, take the time, be bothered and whatever you do – do not hide it. You are not the only one writing an essay on the meaning of Dasein within Heidegger's work. There are many. Think of them. Heck, think of yourself. If you hide the book, trust me, you are never going to remember the shelf tomorrow.

**3.** Near the end of semester when your fellow students have assignments due that require last minute editing and printing, you will find that the queues for the library computers increase exponentially. If at such a time you are sitting there watching the latest episode of Summer Heights High on YouTube or using Facebook's Friend Finder, please, and I cannot stress this enough: LOG. OFF. The library computer area is not an Internet café.

The University Librarian, Andrew Wells, put it more gently when he commented that whilst it is understood that students engage in "social computing" on sites such as Facebook, at peak times students are encouraged to step aside for those who require the computers for more "scholarly purposes". So, see the desperation on the faces of your peers! Not all students have printers at home or time management skills. Just think, one day that will be you in the queue at 4.45pm with a 5.00pm deadline looming. Have pity and sympathise.

**4.** For law students: On the night of your Moot ensure that you get to the library early, locate the required volumes, tab them up, complete the loan form and get out of there. Why? There are several teams Mooting\* each night and only limited copies of the Commonwealth Law Reports containing that beloved case: *March v E & M H Stramare Pty Ltd*. Just be relieved, and think, if you negligently arrive late and cannot locate a bound volume, this need not constitute a *novus actus interveniens* on your part. Jokingly, situate the law library as a respondent, argue causation to 'Their Honours' and claim: "Well, there were only two copies on the shelf. What did you expect Counsel to do? Print one?!"

In conclusion, whilst this list is far from exhaustive, think of it as a step in the right direction towards facilitating harmonious relations between students in UNSW's libraries. Never forget that etiquette is more than correct table manners and crossing your legs, it is about turning down the volume on Ms. Spears and putting that book back on the correct shelf. Otherwise some students really will want a piece of you.

\* With Latin used liberally throughout cases, law students steer clear of the language in their private lives and prefer to use Mooting as a synonym for coitus.

Kylar Loussikian

# MANIFESTO

Friends, family, customers: hear me and hear me well. From behind the confines of the supermarket checkout, I will momentarily escape to deliver you this manifesto on How to Shop. Such instructions may seem laughable, but sadly, not in this age. This age is that of the Yuppie: the North Sydney office-worker who deems it fit to grace the checkout whilst on their phone or listening to the latest trash on their iPod. This, my fellow shoppers, is unacceptable. Unplug yourselves from your digital, pretentious, caught-up lifestyles and listen to the instructions of this humble store attendant. Let me assure you that it is necessary.

In the beginning, God (or the store manager, let's not get caught up in triviality) created shelves, fridges and freezers on which to place items. When you, as a shopper, enter the store, look for the products you wish to purchase. If you want milk, try the milk fridge. Chances are management haven't hidden it three storeys below ground. A surprising and disproportionate amount of iPodded, phone-obsessed secretaries find the need to ask such silly questions as these.

When you, intelligent customer, finally stumble upon the product you wish to purchase, make sure you really want it. Supermarkets should not have to refund products when you discover after purchase that it was the wrong type of apple or that you have an allergy to the soy and linseed in your soy and linseed loaf. If you attempt to return milk because it's too big and you want a smaller size, Stop, Roll-over and Die.

At the checkout, if you decide that, no, you don't really need ten packets of laundry powder, it is unacceptable, repeat unacceptable, to place them with the muesli bars and cheap women's magazines. I suspect most supermarket managers mistakenly take for granted that their customers can differentiate between muesli bars and laundry powder. They are not the same thing, so don't put them together. Furthermore, the aisle is not for baskets, the checkout tables aren't for baskets, and the space under the cash register (you sneaky yuppie bastards) is not for baskets.

The basket stand is, surprisingly, for baskets.

Last of all, and a sin in the same league as greed and gluttony, is the inability of good God-fearing people to operate an EFTPOS machine. The basic functions of EFTPOS are credit, savings or cheque. You pick one. You do not need me to swipe your card, as God gave you hands. When the screen asks 'cash-out?' it is not secretly requesting your PIN.

The supermarket CEOs may love customers, but I certainly do not. Break these rules at your own risk, as I will overcharge you for that low-carb, hi-calcium and cholesterol-reducing yoghurt. Besides, it doesn't look like it's doing you much good anyway.



Jess Bellamy

## The Bellamy Barometer:

# HOT or NOT

## QueuesHOT

"Queues are hot?" you scoff condescendingly. "Don't be a fool. Queues are the bane of the Earth, they're the reason why I have an iPod, why my lunch-break is shortened significantly every week meaning that I only ever get to chow down on Hungry Jacks for lunch instead of that nice little Asian place round the block that doesn't use oil or salt. It is queues, man, which make me fat. It is the sole fault of queues, especially the one in the post office, the one where I am always kept waiting and waiting until the sleazy guy at Counter Two is free. It feels like he plans ahead, like in advance he asks his colleagues not to serve me so that he can serve me, BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE DOES THAT, IT JUST SEEMS SO UNNECESSARY. I WOULD NEVER DATE HIM. NEVER NEVER NEVER, EVEN IF HE HAD LOTS OF MONEY. WELL I GUESS IT KINDA DEPENDS

ON HOW MUCH HE HAS. YOU CAN NEVER RULE SOMEONE OUT COMPLETELY, CAN YOU?"

Just calm down, soldier. Wash your face or something. Are you ok now? No, your mascara is just fine. It must be that waterproof kind. Yes, that kind is really good, I use it too. Now, soldier, queues used to be bad, but I'm here to tell you that suddenly they've become cool, and it's all because of a little concept I like to call GLOBAL COMMUNITY. Next time you're waiting to buy those stamps, try sharing a scoff at the slow service with the woman in front of you. Comment on the severity of the rural drought to the old man looking at Smuggle stationery. If you really have balls, start humming something infectious under your breath. I recommend *Living on a Prayer* because everybody knows it back-to-back, unless you're like my parents and you've never heard of the song, what the fuck, hey? Seriously. And suddenly, there will be an upsurge of life and song and community, and the post office will be lifted off its laurels; it will be united under the global umbrella of Bon Jovi rhythm, beat and rock 'n' roll. And then while your queue-mates are singing and dancing and bumping uglies in the Philately Section, you can just mosey on ahead to the next available counter.

## Body ButterHOT

It's not hand cream. It's not foot cream. It's an all-purpose gooeey paste that you can put wherever you want. It's just like being some sort of underwater creature, except more guavalicious.

## Product placement in the moviesNOT

Look Mr Moneybags Producer Type: when I sit down with a copy of *Don't Say a Word*, starring my very favourite actress, Aishwarya Rai, whose impeccable beauty has graced many a silver screen including the recent quite excellent remake of *Pride and Prejudice* which may just appear on the 'Hot' list in the future (depending on whether I'm having a slow week or not), I EXPECT CERTAIN LEVELS OF QUALITY, OK? I DO.

The other night, I sat down to watch *Don't Say a Word*, partly because I needed something to do while I ate an ice-cream sandwich the size of a house, but also because I was in the mood for a good dose of Bollywood goodness. Until we got to the second wacky instance of Aishwarya's character, Amarata, trying to set up sissy-boy Raj with one of many eligible ladeez in a hot trendy bar. Raj drinks vodka to be cool and elusive. The annoying Pony, his blind date, asks for a Virgin Pina Colada, which leads to a verbal gag, but not the one you're thinking. And Aishwarya looks at the camera, bats her grand, sweeping eyelashes and with her trademark 'puzzled frown of hotness' says, "Get me a Coke. No ice."

This immediately worried me for a few reasons. First, as my sister so astutely critiqued: anyone who looks like Aishwarya Rai would drink either Diet or Coke Zero. We all know only fatties and unhappy people drink real Coke, that's why the ads of people surfing

and having house parties are so deliciously ironic. The producers of *Don't Say a Word* have mired themselves in gross inaccuracy, and it makes me mad.

Secondly, the guy Amarata hooks up, who we all know she's going to hook up with, is NOT PARTICULARLY IMPRESSIVE, BOTH IN THE LOOKS AND THE SOCIAL NOUS DEPARTMENT, yet she still drinks only Coke. Any woman this beautiful who was about to be set up with a man like Raj would be ordering a triple bourbon on the rocks, even if she had a secret six year-old son to look after at home who we only find out about roughly 2.5 hours into the film.

So shame on you, *Don't Say a Word*. You should know that I won't be drinking Coke because of your clumsy advances towards me as a cultural consumer. Instead I will be drinking Coke because of my crippling addiction to the evil, multinational, sugar-pumped, artificially flavoured... chilled... bubbly, sweet... delicious, zesty, disarmingly peppery, so so... refreshing... brew. Let's never fight again.

## Ceiling fans in the bedroomNOT

I understand the idea behind ceiling fans. They are something lovely to have on while you read in bed, get up to some hoo-ha, or fall asleep. Except it is VERY DIFFICULT to FALL ASLEEP when you are listening to something go "brrrr...chug chug chug... br...br... brrrrr... CHUG CHUG CHUG CREEEEAK...brrrrrrrrrr" over and over and over as you mutter desperately to yourself and kick tempestuously at the ceiling.



IMAGE Caterina Pacialeo **PHOTO**  
COFA Graduate Master of Art in Photomedia

*Untitled, series group think*



## The Daily Commute

# tales from the 891

Chantel Cotterell

Most students who commute to UNSW are familiar with the drudgery and joys associated with the 891 bus from Eddy Avenue at Central. For new students, this will soon become a familiar experience during and after O-Week. The 891 bus is more than a bus trip that makes its way along Anzac Parade. It is an experience. Whether it is the queuing at the seemingly never-ending line at Central or developing empathy for cattle when boarding (make that herded onto) the bus, the 891 somehow makes you feel branded. Not as a student or even as a number, but rather as a nameless wonder in one of the Group of 8's degree-making farms.

Cynicism aside, the 891 bus is about more than feeling like livestock. In a perverse way, it makes you feel like part of the UNSW "community". When a fellow student arrives late to a 9.00 am tutorial, the question "891?" followed by a sympathetic nod creates a sense of commonality as you both reminisce about the queues.

So, the 891 can be personalised (gasp!) and that is where YOU come into it. We want YOU (yes, enough of the caps lock) to send us your stories, gossip overheard and personalities-about-campus spotted on the 891 bus. Whether it is "Have you seen the law building? It looks like a spaceship" to "So, this new student thing? What's it called? AR-something. A-R-Q? A-T-C?" We would also love to hear about how you are now dating the wo/man who stalked you on the 891 bus for two months. Send us a picture even.

Until then, here are some tips to make for a relatively pain-free 891 experience:

1. Since the switch to pre-paid, make sure you purchase either a SRA Travelpass or Travel Ten. If not, you will wait in the queue for 30 minutes before being informed "Sorry, you have to buy a ticket". At such times, you are left with one of two options. Run over to the 7/11 or offer the person behind you with the Travel Ten money to dip their ticket twice.

2. If you have a 9.00am tutorial, get there early. The line often trails six students deep down to the bridge. If you are late, some tutors understand. Some do not.

3. If you get a seat, count yourself lucky. You know that writing on the back of the bus? Capable of seating 47 with 23 standing? It is not always followed. Recall the earlier reference and empathy directed towards cattle.

4. Last but not least. Never gossip about friends on the 891. Despite UNSW being home to 40,000 students, chances are a friend from Biology who is friends with the English friend who was being an idiot at the Roundhouse will be sitting right behind you and pass it on. Never a good move.

**Yes, we really do want your stories, no matter how big or small, from your daily commute on the 891 bus. Attach your name or send them anonymously to [tharunka@arc.unsw.edu.au](mailto:tharunka@arc.unsw.edu.au)**



## Miss Moore's Guide to Etiquette

### Saliva

Miss C. Moore

*A Modern Lady's Guide to  
resolving the Acute Paralysis  
that results from not  
knowing How to Act Properly.*

#### Scenario

Your mouth is full  
of saliva.

How did this happen?

Perhaps a passerby wafted  
a baked good under your  
nose. If you are a vampire,  
you may have scented  
human blood. If there are  
tubes coming out of your  
salivary ducts, you may be  
the subject of an experiment  
on Pavlovian conditioning.

The important consideration  
is that this is a dangerous  
situation. Drooling is  
extremely unfashionable,  
and will result in your  
exclusion from the company  
of moneyed gentlemen. I  
will enumerate the possible  
responses to this dilemma,  
and instruct you on how one  
may Act Properly.

#### Solution #1

*You may attempt to swallow the saliva.*

This is fraught with danger. Many a fine lady has  
perished through choking on a mouthful of her own  
saliva. Swallowing is one of the most dangerous  
things anyone does, even more dangerous than riding  
in a buggy, or speaking ill of the King. You should  
never attempt to swallow a mouthful larger than a  
week-old swallow fledgling (this being why the bird is  
so named), and by this stage your bolus of saliva will  
be larger than a thrush! (A bird named for its habit of  
nesting in warm, moist cavities, leading to that other  
feminine complication.)

#### Solution #2

*You may spit into your handbag, or the  
handbag of someone nearby.*

This course of action may only be taken if your mouth  
is excluded from view by a face-garb, or by a pair of  
workmen carrying a door across your path. If any  
man should see you, he will assume that you are  
nauseated, and whisk you vigorously to a lounge and  
fan you with his hat; a most unpleasant occurrence.  
If you spit into someone else's handbag, be sure to  
remark, "Oh dear, I do believe that large bird just  
shat into your bag." Do not then point at the Queen;  
nobody will believe that she shat in a bag, or shat  
anywhere, for the Queen does not shit.

#### Solution #3

*You may stuff your mouth with cotton  
wool.*

The saliva is sure to be soaked up instantaneously.  
You will be protected from a recurrence of this  
condition for as long as you leave the cotton wool  
in your mouth. Do not remove the cotton wool  
prematurely, as it may be trailed by a thread of saliva.  
This is extremely unfashionable, and if an officer of  
the Crown witnesses such behaviour he is authorised  
to issue you with a fine. Should a gentlemen question  
your actions, the cotton wool will excuse you from the  
responsibility of having to explain yourself, as how can  
a lady be expected to speak when her mouth is full  
of cotton wool? You need only point to your bulging  
cheeks and smile modestly. The gentlemen will  
understand and withdraw his inquiry. You have thus  
successfully avoided embarrassment.

# creative writing & poetry



IMAGE Ella Condon **PHOTO**  
COFA Graduate BFA in Photomedia  
*Untitled, series Lithgow 2006*

Kylar Loussikian

# Scowl

For Zoe Iverach, my favourite scenester

I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by tired electro anthems at night and glowing electro screens at dawn, parading down the lane of righteousness and rebellion and following the latest catalogues of general pants to the letter, degenerate hipsters doubling as secretaries and clerical staff claiming to be 'loose cannons' but only on their lunch breaks, who sip their chai lattes hypocritically and lament the world before abusing the attendants when they wait longer than three minutes for their food, who demand the best food and drink bring out the triple brie and champagne before going home to the suburbs and their lean cuisines, who practically explode when yuppie words 'vintage' or 'organic' as examples are thrown around rushing off to double bay for an executive working lunch and later in the evening find themselves at some club where only toothless desperate hags cling onto their shirts for that free drink, those hags being of the variety that appreciate prada, burberry and fluoro slogan t-shirts that shout their appreciation for 'dirty dirty house music', and ginsberg's hero's being nothing but a romantic memory faded into the consciousness of obscure academics idealist students and suburban posers, who miss the point in their coke-addled haze as they pump the latest fad through their suburban sound system and live out meaningless suburban lives at mona, who see youth culture through the glazing of graffiti in safe gentrified suburbs and read about what is expected of them in yen magazine, who vote for so called 'liberals' without having the slightest idea why and without the slightest motivation to find out who find solace in motivational tapes and vow to make big ten-o in the month like sheep listening to god through their car stereos Moloch! You have won! I forget the rest anyhow; shame.

Rory Thomas

## When an Other

*when an other i see  
my eyes look away  
sight is blind  
when the Other hides*

*when an other i hear  
my ears turn away  
sound is silent  
when the Other hides*

*when an other i feel  
my hands pull away  
touch is numb  
when the Other hides*

*when an other i am  
unseen unless i do not hide  
unheard unless i do not hide  
unfelt unless i do not hide  
my Otherness*

# creative writing & poetry

Kylar Loussikian

## ***Story From Tangier***

She'd sleep with any man who winked at her. Everyday she walked between the markets and home and school. And so it came that she mothered some twenty-seven sons, none of whom, to her delight, had webbed feet; she hadn't mothered the son of Satan, and her father, a minister of religion, celebrated with an orgy of women and champagne that lasted twenty-seven days and twenty-seven nights.

The children were marked with twenty-seven green crosses, only returning to visit their mother once a year, as a gesture of thanks for their continued existence. It was on the 30<sup>th</sup> visit by the eldest that they found in place of the house a shiny new apartment complex, and in place of the garden, their mother seated in a hessian sack, surrounded by the most opulent of public gardens.

The municipal council, spurred by the economic bounty from the new train station, had leveled the whitewashed house and built straight for three miles until the canyon resisted. The woman always slept with her door unlocked; she was simply and quietly carried out and into a hotel room in the night. Frightened by the noise of the toilet flush, which sounded remarkably like the Devil's roar, the superstitious woman had returned to her home and fallen asleep in the recycling bag.

Roused to action, the twenty-seven men with twenty-seven green crosses declared war on the council. It was an unconsidered fact, however, that the council had at their disposal the civil guard, whose modern machine guns were surprisingly effective against the pitiful home-made arsenal of the green cross army.

In a stroke of genius, the twenty-seven brothers stood for the twenty-seven positions on the council at the next general election. Blessed by the votes of the towns-people who had been displaced by the colossal pastel buildings, the brothers won easily. Overlooked by developers, the votes cast by the new residents in their plastic condos weren't valid. They were all registered to vote in the city centre electorates.

In the commotion, the aging mother was forgotten, alone in her hessian sack, no longer sleeping with the winking men. She endured this way for many years in patient hope. It was only upon the announcement that the council, led by the twenty-seven sons, had approved the filling of the canyon in order to continue development of pastel palaces indefinitely did she bring herself up from the silent vigil. Mustering the wrath as only a mother can, she bore down on her kin and beat them out of the town hall with a rag. Stupefied by disbelief and embarrassed by their forgetfulness, the twenty-seven dared not respond.

Thus, the elderly lady, mother of twenty-seven former councillors, single-handedly took control of the municipality. She moved out of her hessian sack and into the Governor's house, while her sons dispersed, never to be seen again. A few months later, the canyon was filled.



IMAGE Emma Pike **STILL FROM**  
**VIDEO PERFORMANCE**  
COFA Graduate BFA in Time Based Art  
*The Day*

# REVIEWS



## There Will Be Blood

Jonathan Head

**DIRECTOR** Paul Thomas Anderson  
**RATING** M

**RUN TIME** 158 minutes

*There Will Be Blood* tells the story of oil baron and miner Daniel Plainview (Daniel Day-Lewis). His tale begins with him mining silver in 1898. He makes a lucky find and thirteen years later, he has established an oil drilling company, presenting himself as an honest family man, with his business partner being his young son, H.W (Dillon Frasier). A tip about oil on a property convinces Plainview to make an offer for it, bargaining hard with a young man, Eli Sunday (Paul Dano), who intends to start his own church with the proceeds. A deal is struck and mining begins, but complications soon emerge. Accidents occur, there are conflicts between Plainview and Eli, who has become an influential figure in the town, and more oil discoveries cause troubles within the Plainview family.

Sorry to disappoint anyone who read this review hoping for a judgement that differs from the general opinion, but this film deserves the praise that it has

been given. *There Will Be Blood* is a success on many levels, an incredibly stark depiction of the nature of mining at the turn of the previous century, before the culture of health and safety emerged. Such a dangerous environment makes for many tense moments, as you realise how little it would take for things to go wrong; and they sometimes do. As Plainview becomes more and more successful and no longer gets his hands dirty, his character and his relationships with the others take over as the main source of the drama.

Fortunately, the performances in the film are all excellent. Day-Lewis does a superb job as Plainview, not just how the many different sides of his character are shown but how they alter and darken over time. Some critics had suggested that despite his excellent work as Eli, Dano is too young for the part, something I disagree with. A character that forms his own church, claiming to have power to cast out demons and devils, works best when played with the sanity-testing manic energy the actor provides. Finally, Frasier deserves recognition as the young H.W., in one of the best performances by a child actor in a long time.

As I said before, this film is excellent and it deserves all the praise it has been getting. It shows an incredibly real world, with characters all brilliantly brought to life. If you can appreciate a film that is watched for reasons other than simple pleasure or entertainment, go and see *There Will Be Blood*.



## Juno

Laura Dawson

**DIRECTOR** Jason Reitman  
**RATING** M

**RUN TIME** 96 minutes

Most sexually active teens and twentysomethings are worried about getting pregnant. Even those who aren't sexually active worry about it from time to time ("If it happened to Mary, it could happen to me!"). Not only is the responsibility of caring for a wrinkly pink ball of tears, neediness and emotions a huge imposition on our already demanding time, there is always the concern over how our friends, families and peers might react. What would you do if you or your partner got pregnant? The choice somewhat obviously comes down to one of two things. Of the approximately 40% of women worldwide who become pregnant before they reach their 20s (thank you Google), about one-third carry their pregnancy to term and have a baby. On finding out that even foetuses have fingernails, the title character decides to carry her own pregnancy to term, and so the plot unfolds.

Jason Reitman's indie flick isn't the angst-fest you might expect. In fact, it's easy to watch *Juno* (Ellen Page of *Hard Candy* fame) experience the hardships of balancing parental expectations, peer judgements and adolescent love with her ever-changing body image and mental state. This is largely because of her slightly superhero-esque capability and grounded personality. Unlike the majority of female characters presented to us these days, *Juno* is not a hard-as-iron woman-power crazed bitch, a ditz or a floozy femme fatale. She's a fairly well adjusted, realistic 16-year old who handles her problem in a mature manner. She serves as a role model and sets an excellent example to audience members of any age.

It's also an easy movie to listen to. 'Quick-witted' is an overused stilted adjective that struggles to encapsulate the artily crafted fast-paced pastiche of pop-culture references and dry one-liners in this movie. Beyond the dialogue is the soundtrack. There is a reason why it is (and should be) the number 1 downloaded album on Limewire. Largely compiled of indie/folk singer/songwriter Kimya Dawson tracks, it blatantly shines a very bright spotlight on this newly discovered American talent. This doesn't mean that if you get pregnant you will shed fame on an indie singer/songwriter and inspire people of all ages who see your story. But that's alright, because *Juno*'s approach to life brings a fresh angle to a contentious issue: Do things your own way.



## The Darjeeling Limited

Mirza Nurkic

**DIRECTOR** Wes Anderson  
**RATING** M

**RUN TIME** 91 minutes

Before I begin in earnest, a confession of sorts: I'm a selective Wes Anderson connoisseur. The *Royal Tenenbaums* is among my favourite movies of all time: an all-star cast playing incredibly quirky characters, including Ben Stiller's inspired red-tracksuited performance. But then the same formula fell flat with *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*, in which Bill Murray seemed to do nothing interesting while Seu Jorge played some acoustic Bowie covers in Portuguese. As for *Rushmore*, would you believe that I've yet to see it, an oversight I intend to remedy soon.

As a result I approached *The Darjeeling Limited* as something of a make-or-break movie for Wes Anderson. I'm happy to say that he's produced something wonderful, something good enough for me to consider replacing *Royal Tenenbaums* on my top ten list. It's very much a Wes Anderson movie, particularly the opening short film (more

on that later), but the reason it succeeds is the things he does differently.

The movie is about a journey that the three Whitman brothers, Francis (Owen Wilson), Peter (Adrian Brody), and Jack (Jason Schwartzman), take on the eponymous train. Anderson favourites Bill Murray and Anjelica Huston also appear in small roles; Murray's cameo in particular is wonderful. In true Anderson style each of the characters is classically dysfunctional. Of all the actors, though, Amara Karan is the real revelation. She is utterly charming in her role as Rita, the train's stewardess.

None of this is new ground for Anderson. The really wonderful, different thing about this movie is the way it is shot: on location on an actual train service in India. This meant if the train left while shooting at a stop, the whole production was stranded until the next train. The locations are real, the extras are real, and the atmosphere of India infuses the film with the life that Anderson's movies can lack at times.

Make no mistake; there are still plenty of still shots of characters barely talking to each other, revelling in awkward silences and strange, stilted conversations. This is particularly true of *Hotel Chevalier*, the 13-minute short starring Jason Schwartzman and Natalie Portman which Wes Anderson made in 2005. It is shown as Part I of *The Darjeeling Limited* in some cinemas, complete with its own credits before Part II. It'd be a crying shame to miss out on

this, a revealing exposition of Schwartzman's character. Natalie Portman titillates with her first ever nude scene, sporting her short hair fresh from the filming of *V for Vendetta*. The music, another Anderson hallmark, really shines through here as well: Peter Sarstedt's 1969 tune *Where Do You Go To (My Lovely)* takes centre-stage as the characters do a whole lot of nothing.

Wes Anderson's mastery is making that whole lot of nothing seem so significant, without the need for all that trite Kevin Smith- or Tarantino-wannabe talking-heads dialogue. Some people can't stand his style, and by now you know who you are. Everyone else is in for a treat.



## No More Noise

V8

V8 formed in 2003 when Sydney tenor player got together with friends Cameron Undy, Phil Stack, Laurence Pike and Dave Goodman. In late 2004 they released their debut album, *No More Noise*. This is far from a new release, but this little known gem is definitely worth another mention. *No More Noise* only just squeezes into the bounds of what we know as jazz, if only for its moments of technical brilliance and the numerous jazz projects V8's band members have their name to.

Ultimately, this album pulls off some seriously eccentric music, fully exploring the bounds of instrumentation and composition. Some of the most interesting moments involve two drum kits playing as one, intermittent bursts of laughter, and even the creative use of power tools. With all this commotion, it's hard to believe that this album works. Sometimes it gets a little lost. The beautiful tones of Savage's tenor and harmonics from bassist Undy in 'Reverie' get lost as the sound of V8s take over in the following eleven second track, 'The Door'. Otherwise the mix of music and noise makes this album so interesting and gutsy. For the most part band leader Savage seems to keep it all together, in what turns out to be an unconventional but oh so entertaining LP.

The highlight track would have to be 'Pickhandle', which follows the incongruent conversation between Savage and his less-than-impressed neighbour Seymour, who has been kept up by V8's playing. The scratchy electric bass, mysterious whispers and pulses of power tool, and finally the melodic belting of "I am a psycho/ No more noise!" over a megaphone, are unsuspectingly captivating. Another highlight is 'Fat Albert Gets Lost in Newcastle', where some seriously phat grooves are set up just in time for an electric drill to get to work. This is an album not to be overlooked, except perhaps by the 'conventional' jazz enthusiasts.

# satire section

## NAME CHANGE



### From Arc to Arq

Alan Zeino

In keeping with its annual tradition of a name change, the Arc@UNSW is the target this week of a Queer Putsch calling for it to be renamed as Arq for next year. The name change will inevitably be debated at Arc's Annual General Meeting, which is to be held in the offices of the ALP next Wednesday.

The news has caused an outcry from UNSW's conservative societies. Susan McWhite of Christian Students has labelled the proposal as an "undeniable plot to further the cause of liberalism and freedom of speech on campus".

"There might be a place for a Queer-affiliated union somewhere in the Muslim world, but not here - not in our tolerant and secular society" she said. Her erroneous comment has been echoed by Hillsong Campus President James Toto, who opposes the name change on the principle that "Jesus loved all, and in the name of Jesus and all that is Jesus, Jesus has a strong opinion on this matter. Give me a few minutes while I look it up in this book I've got... fuck it's bloody big".

However, the name change has found support with an Arc representative who noted that it was a positive move for the organisation particularly when a name change would help students forget about our lack of services last year.

Once again, anyone of importance was unavailable for comment.

## Cats outnumber Arts students UNSW 2008

Alan Zeino

UNSW Facilities today has dropped a bombshell in its 2007-2008 Annual Report with an updated tally of feral cats on campus hitting 12,000. Just 1,000 cats short of the number of students enrolled in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. The report has shocked the few interested in the plight of Arts students at UNSW with rumours of Vice Chancellor Fred Hilmer considering the possibility of reclassifying the Arts population as fauna and including it in next year's Annual Report.

However, what is uncertain is the correlation between the intelligence quotient of those studying 20th Century Political Economy and those bouncing around the University Walk killing birds and rats. Associate Professor William Sherwin of the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences notes that "indeed there is a possibility that certain cats are suited for studies in Arts - and vice-versa for Arts students.

"While I don't think an Arts student has sufficient experience to hunt rodents or the physical character to appear in an internet phenomenon in the vein of LOLcats, there is promise in classifying Arts students as fauna, particularly in the weighting of marks".

Other pundits of little note have also weighed into the debate this week with FASS Spokeswoman Sarah Maddison accusing Fred Hilmer of sabotaging the report for his own personal gain. Maddison also stated that "Cats at UNSW are too high, too high under the first 100 days of the Rudd Government". Meanwhile, Hilmer has accused the Arts faculty of slander in his response to Tharunka this week, speculating that its only purpose was to "get cancer and sue the University". The Vice Chancellor also claimed that certain voices within the FASS were conspiring to update the look of their website "in order to appear fresh and modern in the eyes of the few students who still bother studying this crap". Nothing has come of these allegations however.

Concurrent with this furore is a recent push by FASS to restructure its degree programmes - particularly now in the face of an unidentified plot to introduce a Bachelor of Feline Studies by the School of History and Philosophy.

"Heironymous Posh" 2006 The Kingpins. Production still. Photo: Liz Ham. Image courtesy of Kaliman Gallery



## Disneylandslide

**MFA exhibition of Emma Price *The Kingpins***

includ. projects 2006 Liverpool Biennial & 2004 Gwangju Biennale.

Opening night **Tue 25 March 5-7.30pm**  
**KUDOS GALLERY 6 NAPIER ST PADDINGTON**  
 Continues till 29 March

BRAVE NEW WORLDS

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# happy mardi gras 08

Raising the visibility of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer communities.

We do that in many ways but the most notable of these is the Mardi Gras Parade. It's an event with an interesting history so we encourage you to take a look at our history. [www.mardigras.org.au](http://www.mardigras.org.au)

Mardi Gras Parade 1 March 2008

It runs the first Saturday of March every year - since 1978.

Andrew Rose **QUEER OFFICER**  
 UNSW Student Representative Council

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# tharunka

your soapbox

**ISSUE #2 THEME** Leaders

**MATERIAL DEADLINE** Friday 14 March

**CONTRIBUTORS MEETING** OWeek Wed 5 March 3-4pm

**LOCATION:** Training RM 2 East Wing The Blockhouse

**CONTRIBUTOR MEETINGS:** 4-5pm Wednesdays

WK2 - 5 March, WK4 - 19 March, WK4 - 9 April, WK6 - 23 March,  
WK8 - 7 May, WK10 - 21 May and WK12 - 4 June

[tharunka@arc.unsw.edu.au](mailto:tharunka@arc.unsw.edu.au)