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# craccum

aucklands tertiary students magazine

issue one march 1997

## welcome to auckland

(and a life of debt)

- inside -

heroin - the choice  
of a new generation?

bill ralston tells it  
like it was

your guide to factions  
on campus

UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

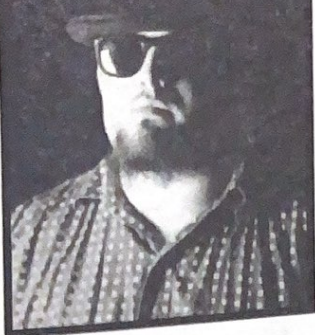
- 5 MAR 1997

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# editorial



## Of Strippers and other things

I realise that it's a tired cliché, but as a trite student politician once said "I realise it's a tired cliché, but that's only because it's true. The time you spend at University can be the best years of your life."

Those well chosen words of wankery said, welcome to Auckland University and a life full of debt. That's right kids, time to wise up and realise all those 'dropouts' at 5th form who've been working for the last 3 years weren't as stupid as you once thought.

My cynicism aside, tertiary education is your last chance to suck every ounce of passion out of every second you have left before the 9-5 routine of the real world seatbelts you into responsibility, a mortgage and voting National.

If this is your first year, then you can look forward to a whole host of initiations. From that first visit to student health to that minor bout of food poisoning (after trusting your new flatmate from Waiuku to do the cooking). 1997 will be your oyster. If this isn't your first year, then chances are you're not even reading Craccum.

I could go on with the usual pep talk, but other issues demand more attention, specifically the media savaging we've recieved over the recent 'stripper' issue. As a person present at the SRC meeting in question, I have a couple of points that Holmes in his usual

mish-mash interviewing style neglected to pick up on. Sure, it was a silly thing for the SRC Chair to indulge in, and it was a silly thing for AUSA to go along with, but that said, it certainly didn't follow that AUSA was evil and should be dismantled.

Who brought up this issue of the stripper? There's a group of right wing kiddies who are pushing for ASU (that's Anti Student Unionism). This would see the dismantling of the association and the silencing of one of the biggest critics of the right wing, student associations. This is why ACT and National support the idea, and are trying to push through a new private members bill that would make compulsory Association membership illegal.

The saddest part in all this, I suppose, is the role which the 1996 Treasurer, Glenn Lamont, and 1996 Womens Rights Officer, Eileen Joy, had in this little media scandal (both were the sources for the release). I remember exactly what Glenn and Eileen (incidentally boyfriend and girlfriend) were doing at the meeting. They were cheering and clapping the loudest, of anyone, at the stripper's antics. Their story now changes to one of moral outrage, I'd argue, because it is politically expedient to do so.

I've never had much faith in Glenn to stick to anything. He started his political career on campus as a Green Party sup-

porter at Tamaki. He then went to National, then to ACT, then back to National. In 1995, he wrote an editorial piece in Craccum where he attacked Anti Student Unionism, and then 6 months later, supported it. The man flip flops so much he makes the New Zealand First Caucus look stable.

As for Ms. Joy, it always struck me as strange that the Women's Rights Officer, who one would hope, would be up with all the theory and understanding of body image and its effect on women, would then go into a job with a cosmetics company. Maybe she missed the lecture on the Beauty Myth.

Why am I telling you all this? Because unfortunately, kids, you're going to have to some time this year make decisions based on the information disseminated by people like Glenn and Eileen who want to see the association in its present form closed down.

I suppose the first lesson learnt at varsity is that everyone comes to you proclaiming the truth.

Enjoy Orientation and 1997.

That's the way I see it, that's the way I'm gonna call it.

Righto!

**BOMBER**

Yo yo yo  
Dear Craccum

It'll be great to see  
bad arsed President  
Muda Fucka' Stevens  
stage belting out a  
with DLT this Orien  
true he used to join  
Doggy Dog?  
Yours

A dedicated Phil  
(Ed: Mr Stevens was  
comment, his manager  
on tour on 'da East  
that was in New York  
replied, 'no, Howick')

Go Mad Dog

Dear Bomber

I am writing to  
concern that the  
drinking fountains  
the University. This  
dents are virtually  
drink Coca-Cola on  
am also concerned  
funds Anti-student  
tions outside campu  
eral students are  
putting a petition  
say no to Coke Col  
our University. As I  
erenda would also  
dents money I would  
if they could at lea  
drink of water outsi  
day. Could the Presi  
inform us as to whe  
ciation is going to  
drinking fountains  
during the refurbish  
Yours faithfully  
Matthew 'Mad Dog'

(Ed: Matt earned his  
name due to some of his  
views on eco terrorism.  
mental Officer for 1996  
controversy by demand  
be thrown at cars with  
son in them as a way  
car pooling. This year  
tal Officer, Kym Burke,  
and his ideas off. 'He's  
liberal, he doesn't go  
she said.)

Johnny the Bomber

Dear Bombs and



# letters

aren't we all sick to fucking death of the University? The bullshit they put us through last year with the Registry Occupation is the last straw. For those not in the know, we occupied the Registry building after those pricks tried to raise the fees AGAIN! We left after they promised all sorts of reductions, when we left they reneged on all the promises. I'm sick of this crap, they increase the fees every year right? So here's my plan to all you students out there, get back every penny by stealing as many books as you can, destroy or deface as much University property and steal as much equipment as you like (the University is notorious for their lack security). Let's show those lying bastards that we aren't going to put up with this rising fee bullshit forever.  
*Up the Revolution!*  
*Johnny the Red*

## Indeed

Dear Craccum

Could someone ask this years Cultural Affairs Officer, Steven Oates, who was that masked man strolling down the Hero Parade in a beautiful dark blue dress with matching eyelashes?

*Yours*  
*Dazzled*

## StripperGate

Dear Craccum

Is Phil a fuckwit? Why the hell did he try to defend the stripper issue? Surely the best approach would have been to have admitted the stripper was stupid, that the AUSA Exec didn't know that was what the SRC Chair was going to spend the money on; in short he should have been honest about it. Instead, our President tries to defend the indefensible. Who

are you taking your media advice from Phil? ACT?

*Yours*  
*Bewildered*

(Ed: It seems that Mr Stevens is as smart as he is good looking)

## The ASU debate starts here

To the student body.

Why the hell should we have to pay fees that go to an organisation that funds things that we don't even fucking need? Maori 'terrorists', gay students, a fucking 'creche' and feminist nazi pig dogs all get a free ride off the back of us, the white student male. We don't use half the bullshit that their 'special needs'(sic) require, so why don't we just make it user pays. It is unfair that we have to fund these losers, bring Anti Student Unionsim(sic) on and let's ban this compulsory crap once and

for all.

Let the market decide!  
*Yours*  
*Third Reich Fighting Man*

(Ed- You are a progressive young chap aren't you? ASU will rob students of a campus life, their voice on education issues, and the services that many can enjoy through strength in union. The only people who benefit from not paying \$140 per year are selfish little pricks like yourself)

## Mate TV

Dear Craccum

We're a bunch of Engineers who are trying to set up a new public broadcasting station called MATETV, but there seems to be some market resistance to us getting \$4 million worth of student money.

*Yours*  
*Puzzled Engineer*

(Ed: that reminds me, what's the last thing an Engineer would say? "I think

it's not about hanging on... it's about letting go...

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AcerNote Light Multimedia 370C	\$3295, including GST	A high performance multimedia notebook computer with more memory, a colour display, built-in stereo sound and advanced productivity software.	11.3" DSTN Display, Pentium 120 MHz, 16Mb EDO RAM, 1.0 Gb HDD, 10x CD-ROM Drive, 16-bit Soundblaster with built-in Speaker, Windows 95, Lotus SmartSuite.
AcerEntra 300 Multimedia (desktop model)	\$2244, including GST	A high performance desktop computer with great memory, 14" SVGA colour monitor and all the software a student needs to get started.	IBM 6x86 processor (equivalent speed to a pentium 150), 16Mb RAM, 1.2 Gb HDD, 8x CD-ROM Drive, 16 bit Soundblaster, dual speakers, Windows 95 and Microsoft Works.

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# NEWS

the  
"good"  
news

## Welcome to your Student Union

(the bad news)

▼ isn't it pretty!!



THE LOWER COMMON ROOM, Womenspace, the Women's Rights Offices and Clubspace will be accessible until the end of March judging by the length of refurbishment delays. Many of the projects are 5-7 months behind the originally advised handover dates.

The third floor - comprising of Shadows, the new functions room, the new Restaurant for 18-20 year olds (Bar None) and Cultural Space - was meant to be on the verge of completion at the time of writing (late February).

However, almost the entire second level of the Student Union building will still be under construction when the semester begins. "It's going to be a massive disruption [for students], let us put it that way," says AUSA Education Vice President Mark O'Brien.

Certain parts of the refurbishment have been put on hold, such as the glass roof over the mushrooms, and the upgrading of the ground level AUSA toilets and lockers. Both of these were meant to have been completed by February 23. By late February however, the design for the glass roof had not been finished, and the funding for the toilets had not been established.

The Auckland University Students Association is

paying for most of the refurbishments but does not own the buildings, meaning that the University behaves as the effective 'client' in its control over contractors.

No-one is really to blame for the delays according to University overseer of the refurbishments, Greg Simpson. "The problems were varied and complex" he says, citing, among other reasons, bad weather conditions and a labour shortage in Auckland. "They were delays which were effectively out of AUSA's and the University's control."

But had contractors started earlier, they would have avoided the bad winter weather according to Mr O'Brien. "In my personal opinion, they had a slow start ... they missed a couple of weeks at the beginning ... and what kind of planning is that, to not allow for wet weather? ... Have they had seven solid months of rain?"

Mr O'Brien also feels the University has been lacking in empathy for students' need to have buildings finished on time.

Mr Simpson puts the late start to the refurbishments down to funding issues, "not inactivity" on the part of the University or contractors.

Two weeks before the semester began, levels three and four of 'Block D' were meant to be out of bounds for students. These included the Craccum and Orientation magazine office in which people had been working for several months. "I don't know the basis on which Craccum is operating. We've got to be cautious about painting the lines of responsibility. As far as I'm concerned Craccum [staff] isn't there at all" said Mr Simpson on February 18.

"Every area we are allowing students in will be safe" Mr Simpson continued, promising that fire exits were all operational, and safe egress would be assured.

(don't blame Craccum if you turn up and it isn't finished)



### EAT

The new Main Cafe's increased kitchen area will mean better food, according to Catering Manager Raewyn Chojnacki. The new Cafe with its new menu will be open between 7:30 am to 7:30 pm.

### DRINK

The New Shadows is reported to look less like an airport lounge than ever before. 'Bar None' the new Bar and Restaurant for under-20s languishes beneath. Both are accessible from within the Main Cafe.

### TREATY

Hineahuone is a Maori students' space, although all students are welcome. Administered by the Maori Students Officers, it has couches, tables, a balcony and a kitchen.

### DIVERSITY

O Lagi atea Moana - the new cultural space, formerly the upper common room - will open with a huge Pacific Island themed feast this Saturday. At present the Pacific Island Forum are the 'caretaker' body, having been the most active supporters for the creation of an open space for cultural groups.





# NEWS

## Paying more is 'competitive' says Registrar to Hostels

1997 HOSTEL RENTS WERE increased by a minimum of \$850 in September last year, with no notice given to hostel residents until November.

Up to \$180 from \$155 weekly, the rent increase is "competitive" because the average flatting student spends \$295 weekly, according to a letter from the University Registrar to a Hostel representative.

About \$120 of this \$295 is calculated from loss of potential earnings while travelling, shopping, cooking and doing housework.

The 1996 Internal Representative for International House received the letter from the Registrar, Warwick Nicoll, after asking for a justification for the rent increase.

"It's ridiculous using a commercial justification for putting up hostel rent... Hostels are meant to be a service" says Claire Szabo, the IH representative. "And the

figures don't even make any sense anyway."

Mr Nicoll stresses the University and the hostels are not trying to make a profit out of the hostel rent increase. The main cause of the rent rise is the establishment of a \$255,000 development fund. The fund will be used to finance the building of more hostels for student accommodation.

"Yeah, great, 400 hostel students are paying \$255,000 more for buildings they'll never see," says Ms Szabo of the development fund. She feels this is a disproportionate burden on a small group.

Ms Szabo is flatting this year because she feels the new rent is not worth her while. International House only has 28 returning students out of 164. The average rate of returning students has always been about fifty people or more.

## tamaki shuttle vs link



The new Link Bus which stops outside the University Library every ten minutes will cause serious congestion when Tamaki Shuttle Buses begin running again.

Both Tamaki Registrar Phillip Rama and the Yellow Bus Company agreed to this viewpoint when it was brought to their attention by Craccum several weeks after the Link Service began. Mr Rama was unaware the Link was stopping outside the Library.

In 1996 two to three Tamaki shuttles stopped outside the Library on the hour to load and unload students. Buses would be present on Alfred street for 10-15 minutes. This year four to six Tamaki shuttles are planned according to Mr Rama.

The Yellow Bus Company was aware Alfred Street was a route for shuttle buses already, but did not think it would be much of a problem until Mr Rama contacted them a week before the semester started.

Since then, both the university and the Yellow Bus Company have sent letters to the Auckland Regional Council outlining a proposal to have Alfred Street closed off to all traffic except buses and delivery vehicles during the university semesters.

Similar proposals from the University have been declined in the past, Mr Rama points out. These past attempts have been based on the fact that Alfred Street is already congested with just the Tamaki Shuttles, delivery vehicles, private vehicles and pedestrians. Even if the new proposal proves an exception, it is predicted that results will be slow in coming.

## The perfect enrolment... as likely as John Banks on a Hero float.

ENROLMENT THIS YEAR HAS been less problematic than the last, although students have still faced hassles. The University says these had nothing to do with the SEARS computer system.

Aside from the usual queues, some students from such varied courses as Law and Psychology were accepted into their papers, only to turn up to enrol and be informed this was not the case. Then after hours of investigation, they would find out they had indeed been accepted.

"Funny things happen to some students" says Academic Registrar Frank Metcalfe, who said he had not heard anything about these cases.

Mr Metcalfe said the computer services had been "exceptional" over the enrolment period despite some "minor crashes".

One unfortunate student employee apparently tripped over a plug at the Cashiers department causing computer 'downtime'. On February 13 and 14 printing and compiling programmes crashed at the Enrolment

Centre. Said Mr Metcalfe at the time, "It's not a SEARS problem as such. They are to do with programming problems which testing didn't reveal for some reason". He did not know if there were other potential problems which testing had not revealed.

Other than that there had been no major network crashes although Mr Metcalfe did admit that progress in the arts and science faculties had been slow due to the sheer number of students involved.

Andrew Alderson

## New ID Cards Fake

Discovering the new university ID card is not proving being an enrolled student surprised the Auckland University Student Association as much as students who received them.

AUSA assumed the ID card would go out to people who had paid their fees for the year. The card bearer would have to be a student for 1997, ensuring them of University and AUSA services, as well as various student discounts this year only. An AUSA membership card was planned for 1998.

However, everyone who was a student in 1996 and had pre-enrolled for 1997 but had not actually enrolled - received cards.

"We are aware we have a problem" says Phillip Stevens, AUSA President. He says a stop-gap AUSA card may be in order. AUSA Services and Marketing has already sent out an information pack to businesses offering student discounts.

The University did not intend the card to be used for automatic eligibility to AUSA services. Instead, the bar code on the cards will be swiped to access to University services such as Student Health, the Library and Rec Centre.

According to Frank Metcalfe, the University's Academic Registrar, AUSA had been fully informed of the card's purpose and scope.

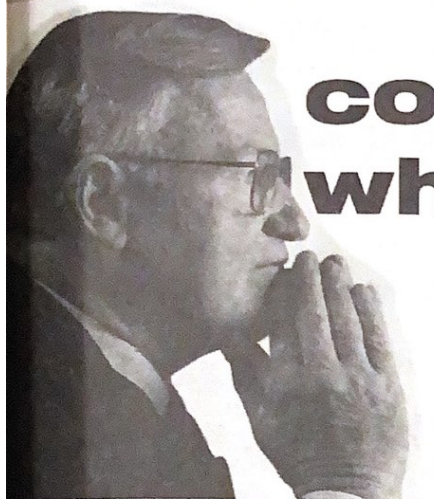
AUSA disputes the claim of this communication.



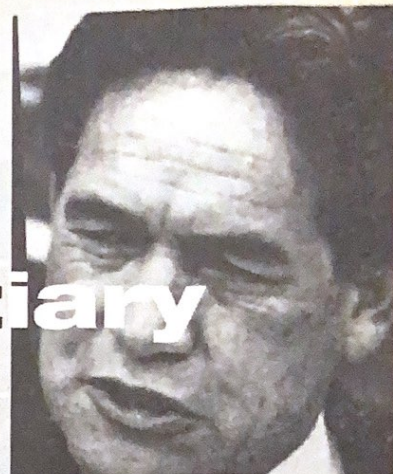
Stuck with a card this for another year



# NEWS



## coalition tertiary whitewash



### Complete Coalition Policy on Tertiary Education

1. A comprehensive review of all aspects of the tertiary sector will be carried out.
2. The government will work, within its first term of office, towards a universal system of living allowances for tertiary students as part of a comprehensive system of youth income support that gives comparability between unemployed job seekers and students.

Universal allowances are unlikely to be in place until just before the next election, if at all according to Opposition and New Zealand University Students Association predictions. The 'Tertiary Review' is also predicted to exclude Academic and Student Association influence, and concentrate on cost-efficiency, which the Minister of Education denies to an extent.

### Allowances? Don't hold your breath

1999 is likely to be the earliest date for universal allowances.

Policy-making will go very slowly in the area of allowances, Opposition Tertiary Spokesperson Steve Maharey predicts. He says this will be due to the difficulties of National-New Zealand First cooperation.

The Minister of Education Wyatt Creech counters

this view of legislative foot-dragging by pointing to the need for "robust" policy, to ensure responsible use of taxpayer money.

NZUSA believes the allowance policy "is one of [the government's] promises which will be for the chop...if they get into financial difficulties," says Hayden Wilson, the national body's Vice-President.

Mr Creech's response is that these predictions are "without foundation," and that "the coalition agreement is clear in its commitment."

One anonymous prediction from inside the University of Auckland, is that if universal allowances do come in, the government will fund them from existing education budgets, for example from EFTS (Effective Full Time Student) funding, meaning that fees will be pushed up.

### Tertiary Review

There are fears among student and staff associations that the Tertiary Review will consist of a group of officials from the Ministry of Education, the Minister's office and Treasury, excluding input

from students and staff.

"Rumours are just that - rumours" Wyatt Creech responds, "To block input from Students Associations and academic staff...is far from our intention."

However, the Minister affirms that one plan for the review is for the government to independently produce a green paper, and then take submissions, after which the government would make a decision.

Student Associations and Academic Staff are skeptical as to how much attention would be paid to these external submissions.

"It looks as though...it will be about cost efficiency, EFTS funding...capital charging and ownership issues," says Hayden Wilson of NZUSA.

Labour agrees. "There's only one place they can look for more money - the students" says Steve Maharey of the cost efficiency rumour. NZUSA is meeting with the Minister of Education on March 5 to discuss the Tertiary Review among other topics.

Mr Creech denies the review will concentrate solely on cost-efficiency, saying its focus "will be much wider."

## VSM to be rehashed in Parliament

National Backbencher Tony Steel's push for another Voluntary Student Membership bill has been described as "time wasting" by the Opposition, and by Students Associations who now call VSM Anti-Student Unionism (ASU).

Like Michael Laws, Mr Steel plans to overturn a clause in the Education Act which allows Tertiary Institutions and Students Associations to make membership of Students Associations compulsory.

The select committee on the original Michael Laws VSM bill was meant proceeding with the bill,

which did not go to a vote due to the absence of Mr Laws.

The majority of MPs would have followed the select committee recommendation and voted against the bill according to Opposition Tertiary Education Spokesperson Steve Maharey, who also says another bill "will be wasting public money."

Mr Steel believes Mr Laws' bill did not fail because of a lack of support for VSM/ASU, and thinks that a less prescriptive bill, and a nonconfrontational approach will win Parliament over.

Students associations will not be so easy. "It isn't a decision that par-

liament should make. It's a decision that students should make" says NZUSA President Michael Gibbs of legislating against universal membership. Mr Gibbs pointed out that students could already conscientiously object to student association membership, or vote for voluntary membership of their association.

Mr Steel claimed in early February that he had consulted with 'student leaders' in the drafting of the bill, but the New Zealand University Students Association and the Aotearoa Polytech Student Union did not hear from him until February 26.

NZUSA say Mr Steel is trying to be more cooperative than Mr Laws, but that their positions are fundamentally opposed.

Mr Steel says he has the support of the National caucus to have the bill drawn from the ballot. He is planning for this to happen on March 6.

New Zealand First has yet to formulate a policy on VSM/ASU, although Winston Peters voted for Mr Laws' original bill to go to a select committee.

Mr Steel will be attempting to work with ACT, who are also formulating a VSM/ASU bill.



## Raising the Barricades

DICKLAND UNIVERSITY TUITION FEES rose 15.8% this year despite the student Association's belief that post-occupation negotiations would bring the fee rise down. craccum takes a closer look at the student/university interface.

The Fee-Setting process started extremely late in the year - bluffs and counter-bluffs flew fast and furious.

The 15.8% fee-rise was the second 'climbdown' by the University, which had previously proposed 24%, and 18.6% fee-rises. 15.8% was agreed during the Education Action group-led occupation of the University Registry building in September '96, as a condition of the ending of the occupation, a Joint Working Party consisting of four student representatives and five University representatives was set up.

AUSA reps thought the purpose of the group was to examine ways of saving the University money so less could be needed from 1997 tuition fees. But according to Working Party member Mark O'Brien, student recommendations were stonewalled at every step.

"They never seriously considered AUSA suggestions... It never got to the point where we would actually discuss a proposal. The meetings would be Kit [Carson, University Vice-Chancellor] saying 'put it on paper and fax it to us'. So we would. Then they'd fax us their policy. Then we'd file a proposal at the next meeting and Kit would adjourn the meeting. Then at the meeting after that they'd reject the proposal. It was obvious they weren't committed to making a reference to the fee."

At the final Finance Committee meeting on October 15, AUSA put forward a 0%, 5% and a 7.9% increase scenario. Savings were to be achieved in non-faculty areas - IT support systems and operating expenditure, for example reducing depreciation costs by selling unused



**Simon Manning: This nice old man has told us this is his building and that we should all fuck off now.**

equipment like overhead projectors.

But ultimately Finance recommended the University's own \$336 (15.8%) fee-rise to Council, which ratified the fee on October 21. At the close of this meeting, Simon Manning, AUSA Administrative vice-President and occupation leader, remarked with some bitterness "I don't know why you don't just make a video of these meetings and play it back every year." Disillusioned AUSA reps, who had predicted the bottom line to be "at least 12%", obviously feel the Joint Working Party has made no difference to students.

"That is a fair statement," Brian Cocker, University Finance Registrar and member of the Working Party admits. "The fee-rise stayed the same, so it hasn't made any difference...I know that certainly the stu-

dent reps got very frustrated during the negotiations and the University may have not reacted as well as the students hoped...But in fairness I think you'll find that a number of issues the student reps raised will be

**"They never seriously considered AUSA suggestions... It never got to the point where we would actually discuss a proposal"**

looked at by the group working on the finalisation of the Budget...Some good will come out of it eventually." 'Eventually' wasn't good enough for

AUSA, which took the University to court after fee-setting. The argument was that the University was putting its "2001 Strategic Plan" (to become the "pre-eminent" national university, and an "eminent" international university) before obligations to its Charter and the Education Act. The appeal for judicial review failed, and the University tried to claim costs of \$18,000. Eventually AUSA had to pay the University \$1000.

At the same time, an unexpected extra \$3.7 million was granted by the Government to the University in the post-election puffery. The University refused to discuss using this extra money to keep the tuition fees down.

And why not? AUSA assumes keeping the fee down is simply a low priority for Finance Committee and

the Council. Grant Wills, Assistant to the Registrar disagrees. "That \$3.7 million came at a cost...[the Government] required us to take more students before we could get it" says Mr Wills.

AUSA contradicts this completely. "The extra money is not tied to individual students in any way" says Bruce Cronin, AUSA's Research and Information Manager. "They're still carrying the same number of EFTS (Effective Full-Time Students)...the money is most likely to go towards an increase in capital expenditure.."

1997 may see more University money spent all-round. One of the main arguments for the fee rise was that the University needed to run a

surplus, and was unwilling to direct this surplus towards alleviating tuition fees. However, by late February, the University had decided it would run a deficit, citing inflation among other circumstances. This U-turn grates on AUSA - O'Brien says the Capital Works Budget is an obvious priority over fees.

And so the struggle continues. Was there a better way? A small number of occupiers believed that AUSA should have never gone to the negotiating table so quickly.

"We wouldn't have gotten any more if we sat in that Registry building for another week," O'Brien responds. "We thought at the beginning that the more action you do, the more you get. But that only happens if you escalate. And we couldn't figure out how to escalate. The Working Party was like a step sideways...it didn't leave me with a lot of faith." Pretty depressing Mark. "Oh, you want me to say something positive! Okay...um... Last year the University didn't listen. This year we'll make them."



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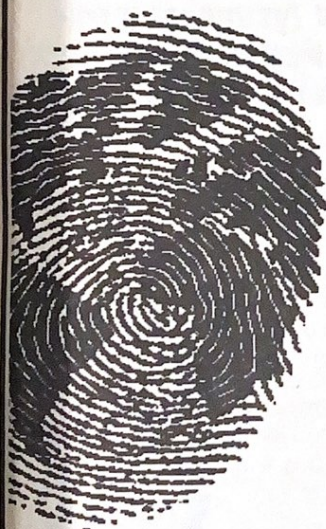


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voice is P

## wake up, aotearoa Kia Ora koutou



Beads, mirrors and boxer shorts still hold fascination for those with personal indulgences. Surely this is not a Maori thing? It could be symptomatic of being in the cold for over 150 years. Or is it a cultural clash between Maori and Pakeha? Hell, don't Pakeha like \$89 boxer shorts or something. Just why can't Taunui's favourite son have boxers? What's the big deal? I bet all the winebox guys wear boxers, probably 10 pairs at once. I hope all those boxers in that winebox get the same attention as Tuku's tarau. In fact, if one had the power, Chas Sturt (unserious fraud office) would be dismissed forthwith followed by an investigation that would leave Tukugate or undigate looking like a Kohanga reo tea party.

Don't get me wrong. I ain't no blind fundamentalist Maori or advocate for Tuku (he doesn't like me anyway). I'm just trying to keep a perspective on tarau's, I mean things. Look, Tuku is not Maoridom. He represents a small section that come from Tainui, end of story. If the media want to crucify Tuku, Morehu, McDonald and Brannigan (ex European Pacific directors) then I say be my guest. Those who elected Tuku (Tainui) should also replace him or risk retaining a political representative who for the next three years will be impotent for fear of exposing himself.

If that's not tokenism, what is.

It is common knowledge that Winston, the fighter against corruption, the underdog etc, won the Maori vote irrespective of his claim that the electorates supported their candidates. After Labour and National's treachery, Donald Duck, as a rep, was starting to look good.

If it wasn't for the coalitions majority of one, both Jim and Winnie would have torched Tuku's tarau's with or without Tainui support and irrespective of whether Tuku had them on or not.

It is a joke, the Prime Minister claiming the government is trying to fulfil a Treaty obligation by backing the failed television channel. More exploitation of Maori people. Beware of those who make grand pledges etc.

Tukugate has raised the serious issue of leadership in this country. There is none. Maoridom is no different. Glimpses from Sir Hepi have enabled the potential to be seen and perhaps what we once were, but if a pair of undies can usurp the minds of Maori and Pakeha over and above the serious problems facing our country, then it reinforces in my mind that our people are lacking substance, that the leadership is a reflection of the people and the people are a reflection of the leader.

No one said it would be easy.

As I saw it this week  
Tauni

## pacifican wave

Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Kia Orana, Ni Sabu-  
la ni Vaka, Talofa Lava, Taloha ni

This fortnightly column is intended for Pacific Islands Student views and news on anything and everything. Contribution of interest can be sent to Audrey or Sieni through Pacific Island Students Council p/c/o AUSA.

Currently there are six main Pacific Island Cultural Associations to AUSA. They are Fou Fou he Pulotu a NIUE, Cook Island Student Association, Samoan Students Association, Tongan Students, Tamaki Student Association and Pacific Island Students for Christ. Check out during Orientation. Don't limit yourself though, check out and broaden your horizons.

The Pacific Island Students Council started as a Representative of the above Pacific Island Cultural Associations but doesn't operate the same lines as them. We look at how better to serve Pacific Islands on this campus and your input into defining the future direction of the council is welcome. Drop by our stall during orientation.

Lastly, Cultural Space 'O'Lagi Atea Moana' will be blessed and opened on the 8th March. If you would like to be present or can help in any 'Opening Day' preparations please let us know. Contact us through AUSA pigeonhole.

Have a great semester and keep tuned to our fortnightly column.

Fakalofa Lahi

Nuhisifa Williams.

Chairperson Pacific Island Students Council.

## ALL MEN ARE BASTARDS

How timely that the first Womyn's Column should coincide with the complete erection of the phalatial (sic) Sky Tower... AND darlings... STRIPPERGATE... gee, and who knew that SRC was dominated by white male ego?! Yes we should be angry about the strippers BUT paleeeeeease... the hysteria has been led by an ex-Womens Rights Officer (who is now assistant manager for a cosmetics store) and her boyfriend, who both enjoyed the whole act if I correctly recall. And why? Anti-Student-Unionism (ASU), not concern for womyn. ASU would effectively deprive female (and all) students of a voice. Surely this whole affair spells out the need for a womyns advocate. So beware sweetie, BEWARE.

AUSA usually provides womyn with Womenspace, where you can retreat from the above-men-

tioned egos. However, currently undergoing some renovations. Darlings, 'chance dance-cards' because on day 12th March, the new Womens Rights Officers (N Ann) will be holding chocolate-fest... so watch space.

ALSO, watch for: Wrighters Collective, (Womens Education C Aotearoa), WISE (Womens Science and Engineering), Womens Spirituality N Ask for them in 4 A (AUSA)... ALL womyn watch.

Cooking tip for the Ladies, if your man asks to cook him some dinner... What better way to keep him satisfied... and as an extra wash his plate in the toilet hand.

XXXXXOOO  
PUSSY GALORE



# On the Left with Pam Corkery

Ooooooh! I said three, count three, three words in Parliament on my so-called maiden speech in Parliament. They were 'wet', 'patch', and 'penis'. What an uproar has come from those words. And, between us, I'm genuinely amazed by the outpourings of uptightness emanating not just from foreign owned media outlets - those brave anonymous people who write the Herald and Dominion editorials - but also from many New Zealanders, including friends. Apparently I offended Parliament. From what? Last time I looked, we politicians were not only behind lawyers, stockbrokers, and journalists but also plumbers. (How plumbers have fallen so low, I have no idea!) Anyway, it seems that it's okay to talk in Parliament about poverty in New Zealand; a case in mass murders, unemployment institutionalised as a necessary money-

tary policy tool, and greed enshrined as a social virtue, but don't say penis. Let alone 'wet' and 'patch' in succession. I was thinking about this as I prepared to write my first column for Craccum. (Actually, I wrote one a while back when I stood against Les Mills for the Auckland Mayorality. As we all know, that tower of charisma, retained his position.) At this time of writing, I'm now an MP and the wireless is going mad with complaints about my lack of ladylike talk. It's a funny old thing life, I say, taken aback by the profundity of this statement. And also remembering Roseanne Barr's response when challenged that she wasn't 'ladylike'. I'd give you her response but it includes references to a man's genitalia. But you've got to laugh. For years and years I've heard New Zealanders complain that people change once they become

members of Parliament. Now, I'm the target of complaints because I haven't changed! It's a pointer to me that we've been so biffed about by a failed ideology that we've become masochistic. We actually want to be let down as a nation so that we've got either a conversation point, or a reason to be even more slack-jawed and demoralised than ever. Most of our forebears came to New Zealand steerage and we're in fear of staying that way. On an up note, I don't believe this can last. This idiot cycle of anticipating the worst, getting it, then saying 'beat me, I deserve it', has to come to its inevitable conclusion. But it involves sticking your neck out. Despite this week's happening, I still believe it's better to die on your feet than live on your knees. (As the coarse Pam in Parliament would add: 'while you're down there')

## Around Campus

### monday

- Grant Gillon, Alliance MP on the Alliance Stall at 1pm
- Steve Maharey, all round good guy and voted most eager of 1997 at EAG 1pm
- On campus this week, Auckland Film Festival 1997 Season ticket sales.
- Orientation Comedy show, B-side 1pm
- Atisa Orientation: Free BBQ & 'Andre' playing live
- Macbeth at Summer Shakespeare
- Shadows, 8pm: Pash play live
- Cinema Paradiso 6pm start: Indochine, Brazil
- Late Night Movies 10pm start: Fists of Fury, Once upon a time in china, Drunken Master

### tuesday

- Orientation Comedy show, B-side 1pm
- Atisa Orientation: Free BBQ & 'Pasifika' playing live
- Macbeth at Summer Shakespeare
- Shadows, 8pm: Superette show us why no one buys their albums
- Cinema Paradiso 6pm start: 1900
- Late Night Movies: Life of Brian, Live at the Hollywood Bowl

### wednesday

- Orientation Comedy show, B-side 1pm
- Atisa Orientation: Free BBQ & 'Auckland City Dance Group'
- Macbeth at Summer Shakespeare
- Cinema Paradiso 6pm start: Malcolm X
- Late Night Movies: Reservoir Dogs, Pulp Fiction, True Romance

### thursday

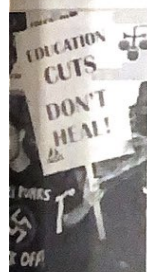
- Pam Corkery and Liz Gordon release Alliance Youth Campaign in the Quad.
- Atisa Orientation: 'Semi Lemon Cola' playing live.
- Orientation Comedy show, B-side 1pm
- Macbeth at Summer Shakespeare
- Shadows 8pm: Techno
- Cinema Paradiso 6pm start: Someone Else's Country, Salvatore
- Late Night Movies 10pm start: Red X, The Harder they come, Time will tell

### friday

- Lai la Harre, Alliance MP at the Alliance stall, 1pm
- Orientation Comedy show, B-side 1pm
- Emma Paki 11am outside the Rec Centre.
- Macbeth at Summer Shakespeare
- Cinema Paradiso: Roger and me, Matewan
- Late Night Movies 10pm start: Akida, Legend of the Overfiend
- Watch out for next week - Irish Fest on Campus

## Quick tips

- 1 In a spell between lectures stop and sit outside the library to catch a glimpse of students from all bearings of your mental compass. Good crumpet can be alluded to through quasi-Top Gun quotes such as "check out two o'clock". But then again if you had a life...
- 2 The clock museum on Princes Street is a tremendous place to visit... come and listen to 6000 clocks chiming in unison. (Come prepared with your cucumber sandwiches and lashings of ginger beer)
- 3 Enrolment queues - some queues were given chic, vibrant names to arouse bored students. Hence students were confronted with the "troubleshooters" queue if the lecturer's son or daughter in the previous queue couldn't deal with an application adequately. For those who cry out that "we were just doing our job", well, it didn't work for the Nazis at Nuremberg.



## Red Tide Rising

### Another Election, Another Broken Promise

To the floods of puzzled first years, the Education Action Group is the chance for students fed up with fees, loans and inadequate allowances to

take action. EAGers are the hard-working people you will see throughout the year making banners, organising marches and speaking in lectures. We aim to inform you how the government is screwing you over this week and what you can do about it.

Thanks to heavy campaigning last year, the glorious election promised us universal allowances. Where are they? Your allowance is unlikely to arrive until 1999. This sounds suspiciously like a broken promise to me. Only one of students currently receive allowances, and due to means-testing, most of them get a pittance. How can the government justify making us fork out for the education which is our right and then not pay us for our hard work? We will reply by lobbying MPs to commit to their promise, building to a National Week of Action in May. We will also be planning actions later in the year, as well as our usual social gatherings. Visit me, your Campaign Coordinator, in the Committee Room in 4 Alfred St (the villa next to the Lower Cafe) or visit our Orientation

Kia kaha  
Julie 'the whip' Fairy

## As God sees it...

### A Bit of Plato!

Musing one day in front of his word processor the Greek philosopher Plato had some rather unflattering things to say about the youth of his time.

The youth, thought Plato, lives along day by day, gratifying the desire that occurs to him, at one time drinking and listening to the flute, at another downing water and reducing, now practicing gymnastic, and again idling and neglecting everything; and sometimes spending his time as though he were occupied with philosophy. Often he engages in politics and, jumping up, says and does whatever chances to come to him; and if he admires any soldiers, he turns in that direction; and if its money-makers, in that one, and there is neither order nor necessity in his life, but calling it sweet, free and blessed, he follows it throughout (Republic 561 c-d).

Some would say that Plato's description, though certainly in need of some

revision of its gendered language, nevertheless bears some resemblance to student life today. I myself, would not wish to be so unkind, but I am interested in drawing attention to what such a life lacks. In Plato's view, the problem is a lack of both order and necessity. What has that to do with contemporary student life?

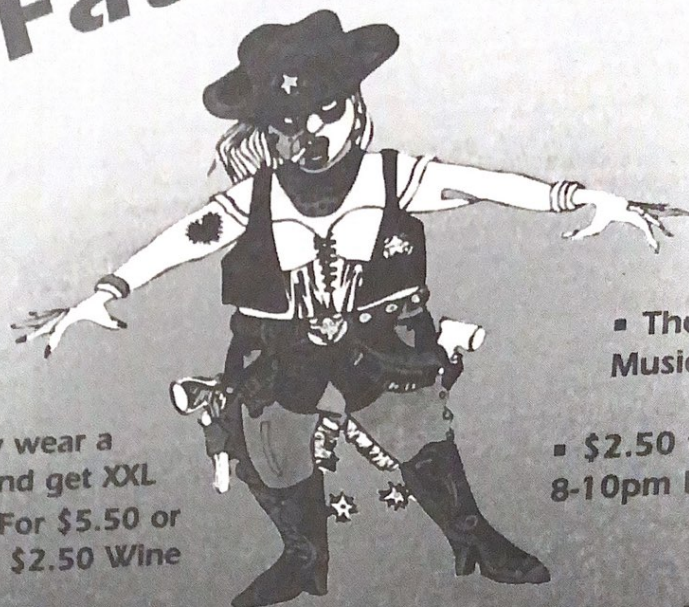
It is easy enough to put together a degree dabbling in this or that, majoring in the other. And it is equally easy to put together a life in

much the same manner. But what Plato prompts us to ask with his concern for order and necessity is, 'To what purpose?' What are we achieving? Is it worthwhile? And is it guided by the truth about the way the world is? These are moral questions. That is because education is a moral enterprise. It has a little to do with the accumulation of information but much more to do with the meaning and purpose of one's life.

Murray Rae  
Maclaurin Chaplain.



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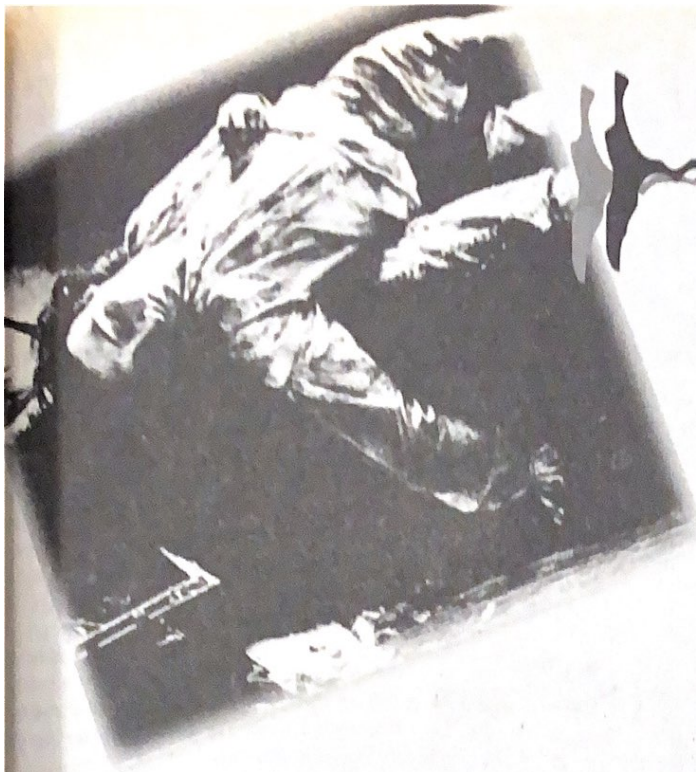
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 323 Beach Road  
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 Ph 309-2545

**Rt Hon Jonathan Hunt**  
 358 Great North Road  
 Henderson  
 Ph 835-0915

**Judith Tizard**  
 MP for Central Auckland  
 217 Richmond Road  
 Ponsonby  
 Ph 360-2782





# Heroin

With its recent surge in popularity, heroin is becoming a hit with this generation. Alistar Bone goes behind the scenes and explores why we're getting hooked.

The next thing Dave knew he was lying on the carpet and another man was trying to French kiss him. He pushed him away screaming 'get off, get away.' As he regained his faculties he realised what had happened. He had 'dropped', overdosed the same second the needle had entered his arm, from which the syringe still hung like a fat glass leech. He had stopped breathing and had been resuscitated by a fellow junkie blowing into his lungs. It was no big deal; it had happened before and would happen again a total of six times before he kicked the habit.

It was usually when you got a new batch of Heroin or a new dealer that things like that could happen' he says. The remedy is a simple first aid technique often used on drowning victims, rather than the dramatic adrenaline jab into the heart as in the movie Pulp Fiction. If you have friends who are not panicky or stupid orsted themselves you may be all right. However this too can vary, Dave tells of a young girl who dropped on her first shot. Two hours of cajoling and vigorous exercise were necessary to bring her around. It was like she had no will to live' he says reproachfully. Incidents like this did nothing to slow down his own use of the narcotic. He first injected heroin at seventeen while living in Australia. That is to say he turned his

head and winced when his addict friend injected him. After the initial 'rush' effect - described by others as 'like coming from every pore' - Dave entered a 'warm, buzzy, floaty' stage where he was 'at peace with the world and myself.' From there he never looked back and with a steady and

available supply was soon shooting every night. A habit quickly developed.

"They were musicians I looked up to. Sid Vicious, Iggy Pop and Johnny Thunders from the New York Dolls. I thought I could be as cool as them."

He did it to get back at an abusive and domineering parent and as a straight out





**'You really have no idea how it is going to affect you. I think it is like Russian Roulette.**

ple who choose to stop and undergo the pangs of withdrawal bail out because even the heroin high does not obscure the fact that their life has become a piece of shit. Most people do not intend to get this far into it, but the casual user faces their own

hurdles. One of these is that to get heroin you have to do business with vermin.

'If you want to regularly get opiates the type of people who are dealing are very much in the crime scene' says

Connell. 'They are often violent and mostly dishonest. With

cannabis you're not generally dealing with criminals, with Opiates you are.' Connell lists the two main drawbacks to heroin use for the novice, the legal and the health problems. Heroin is a class A controlled substance. It attracts large fines and mon-

ster jail sentences for bigger amounts. Even at the lower end of the scale Connell says the implications of a conviction are enormous.

'All it takes is one class A conviction and it can screw your life up considerably for a long period of time,' he says. Among the things drug convictions of this magnitude bar you from entry to the United States effectively forever. It is worth noting that the police are actively looking for heroin. Unlike the situation with cannabis where the war has really been lost, police perceive a chance of victory against heroin. A lot of state resources - not only police - are committed against anyone who has any contact with the drug. This includes the casual user.

There is also a fair chance of dying the time you shoot up. Karen is a drug counselor with an enlightened attitude to the



# Heroin in New Zealand

- Police seized about 300 per cent more more heroin and 297% more morphine in 1995-96 than the previous year.
- Police found 673 grams of powdered heroin compared with 229g in 1994-95.
- Liquid heroin seizures increased from 64.5 millilitres to 382.6 millilitres.
- National Drug and Intelligence Bureau coordinator Harry Quinn is confident heroin usage is declining.
- LSD seizures dropped from 18,127 in 1994-95 to 8,655 last year. Mr Quinn said LSD use is becoming more popular.
- Since 1991 the number of people on methadone has trebled to 2331.
- Police say there is a very slight trend of interest among new, younger users who consider themselves the cafe set.

f heroin. Though he says she would prefer that it didn't happen, she would offer to be a support person if her own child announced they would like to use heroin. On the dangers involved she is unequivocal.

'You really have no idea how it is going to affect you, I think it is like Russian roulette. There is a chance there will be no hassles at all, but you're never quite sure.' Oddly the drug itself is relatively harmless. An Australian drug information sheet states that

'Opioids used hygienically and in pure form are not especially toxic to the body and appear to cause little damage to the user's body organs and tissues.' It is the variety of its quality, and it's adulteration that is dangerous. Heroin is 'cut' to make it go further, street users do not have access to the sophisticated instruments required to determine to what extent this has taken place. Hence 'x' amount today can be fine but 'x' amount tomorrow can result in an over dose and resultant drama. Connell says many OD's happen because there is a synergistic effect between alcohol and heroin. A bit of alcohol and a bit of heroin add up to more of an effect than either singly.

'They say on the news "He overdosed on heroin," but they don't mention the half bottle of Scotch he had at the same time'

says Connell.

As a final objection Connell has a startling image on the wall. A still from a Fellini film, it shows an exhausted man trying to row a gigantic rhinoceros through sand. Connell says its a good icon for a treatment centre.

'Heroin doesn't make you anything' he says. 'Heroin does bring peace of mind. But its a shortcut and its very short lasting. If you went by say, Transcendental Meditation for that peace of mind you'd get a much longer lasting and similar effect. But most people aren't prepared to put in the work.'

It doesn't take much to see that the practical problems surrounding heroin are a result of it's illegality.

So why won't they let you use it? Because to produce heroin that won't shock your heart to a stop, production has to be carefully controlled. That means expensive machines and PhDs to understand those machines. You are not going to pay for this because you will be too content to turn up for a career if you are a regular user of heroin. The state will have to pony up and the state really means people with a PAYE job, who enrol to vote and who think heroin is an evil prostitute-biker thing. They aren't going to like shouting your skag much so its not going to happen. Heroin therefore stays illegal.

Another point, if heroin is free legal and safe why wouldn't everyone want to use it? Everyone including the PhDs run-

ning the heroin machines? What if the taxpayer got a taste? The truth is, vast amounts of people would regularly use it if it were 'OK.' Taken to it's logical conclusion this could be cancer-tearing-at-the-heart-of-the-nation's-flag's-fabric stuff. Feeling good is at the root of all human endeavour. In this sense heroin is the mainline to the terminus of joy. The BMW, the clothes, the money, the things you work for are all instruments to make you feel what heroin makes you feel immediately. ( If you're still alive, after you've cleaned up the vomit, if that guy who looks like Begbie from Trainspotting isn't a cop.)

With heroin it is all over for society. Not in the propagandistic 'wasted youth' or 'moral decay' way either. More like a nuclear aftermath, where the wards are all full and the doctors are all dead (or blissed out). Imagine the question tens of thousands of people will ask themselves every morning in a heroin hip society; 'Shall I go to my deadening job so I can be obsequious to my demented boss, or shall I ride a hundred crashing body orgasms to the palm fringed blue beaches of heaven?' Nothing, including the fine and necessary things, would get done.

Society cannot function on heroin, its too good. So its horrendously illegal and its dangerous as hell and it turns you into scum. Sadly, heartbreakingly, in the absence of general integral happiness, this is the way it should be.



AUSA &  EXPORT GOLD

# Oriental '97

## HAPPENIN' ALL THS WEEK!

**MON @ SHADOWS**  
R20 8PM

PASH  
HER MAJESTIES MINSTRELS

**TUE @ SHADOWS**  
R20 8PM

SUPERETTE  
THE GRADERS  
ETHER and MOSSFLOWER

**WED @ POWERSTATION**  
ALL AGES 7.30PM

HEAD LIKE A HOLE  
FRENZAL RHOMB  
FUTURE STUPID  
HER MAJESTIES MINSTRELS

**THUR @ SHADOWS**  
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TACHNO! featuring....  
The Peter Stuyvesant Hit List  
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**FRI @ POWERSTATION**

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THE ORIENTATION DANCE PARTY  
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TRUE SCHOOL HIP HOP JAM  
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**EXPORT YOURSELF THERE**

**DAY TIME**

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# welcome to auckland

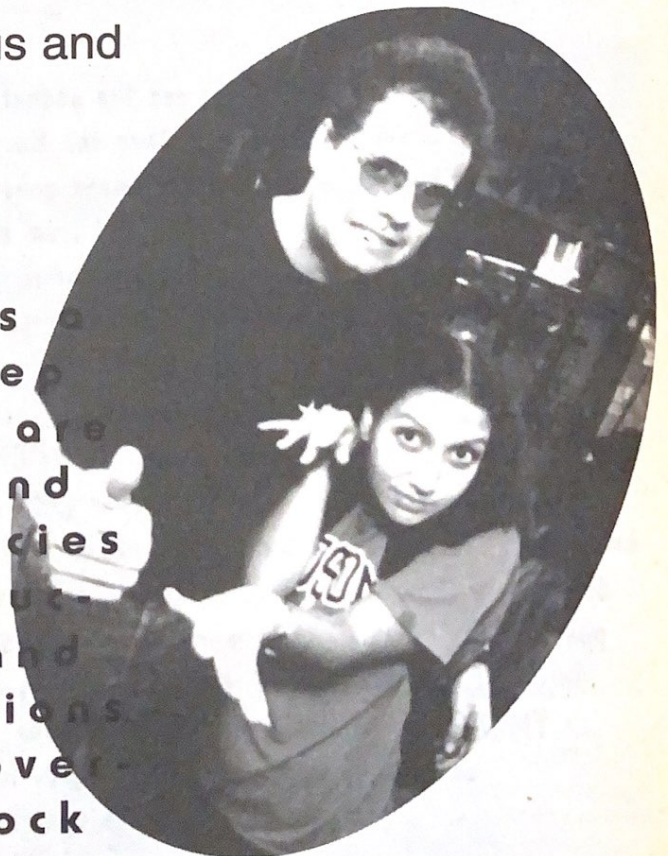


*Welcome to Auckland, city of a thousand lovers and traffic wardens. We here at Craccum remember well our first year at the campus of concrete we playfully call Auckland University. We remember all the trouble we could have avoided if only some wiser and much more attractive soul had passed on their numerous years of experience to us, the naive and easily influenced first year. This year will follow as others have, but the same mistakes can be avoided if only you heed the advice in...*

**Craccum's guide to Auckland, campus and everything!!!!!!!**

## **Auckland**

**Auckland, ahhh, there's a warm fuzzy feeling deep inside that says things are normal in the world, and western liberal democracies as we know them will succeed as long as Auckland stands firm in its traditions of 3 hour traffic jams, overpriced coffee and tussock moth spraying.**





# Cafes



Auckland of course is Maori for 'Decafe Latte thanks love'. Ever since the first whaling boat in 1823 arrived carrying with it 3 coffee perculators and a portable version of Alexander Bells yet to be invented telephone, Auckland has become a well known source for cell phone wielding wankers who enjoy cluttering every inner city pavement while slurping

a beverage which for all knowledge could be anything but a fucking-cafe. History aside there are some mighty cafes in our blessed province, we suggest you only try the ones in the city, as every other cafe is too full of Shortland Street extras and people who claim to have slept with Mickie Havoc (Ponsonby and Parnell are notorious for this).

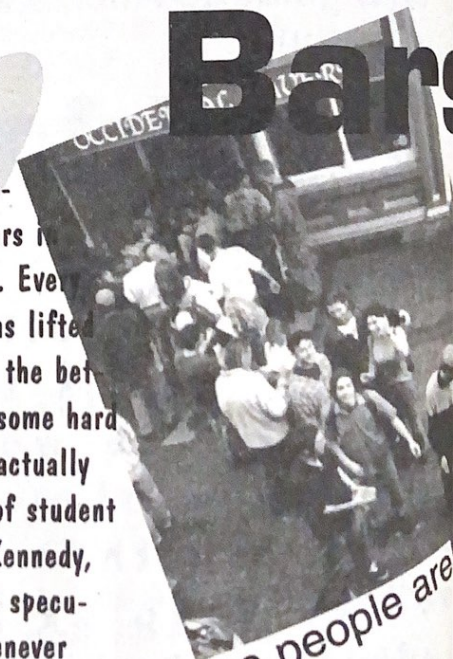
## CAFES WORTH TRYING

DKD (of course)  
 \* Rosinis  
 \* Rakinos  
 \* Black Crow  
 \* Student cafe  
 (ha, ha, we're  
 joking already,  
 just seeing if

you're awake)  
 \* Barritone  
 \* 23 High Street  
 \* Temple Cafe  
 \* Cyber Cafe  
 (Lorne Street)  
 \* The Devonport  
 Cafe

If the cafes are the seductive sister of Auckland, then the Bars are the delinquent son. Ever since image conscious students could drawdown several thousand from old man Government without the slightest intention of repayment, the bars in Auckland have done a roaring trade in overpriced beverages. Every gimmick ranging from Botswana Bitter to Kyrghistani Ale has lifted the imported beer market to recent highs. 'The more obscure the better', confided one marketing guru recently to Craccum. After some hard questions however, it was revealed that 2/3rds of them are actually brewed in Manurewa. Banter aside there is no finer example of student debauchery than our very own student bar, Shadows. Brett Kennedy, possibly the best hung bar manager in Auckland, refused to speculate whether or not staff would be dancing on the bar whenever YMCA came on the jukebox (see campus section for more on Shadows). If you're gonna play in the city at night, best to watch out for...

## Bars



three of these people are actually 20!



## BARS TO TRY

Deshlers (the best Frank Sinatra bar in the world)

Shadows (the cheapest bar in the world)

Judder Bar (if you can stand putting up with the people who couldn't get into the Waterfront)

Margaritas (sure place for shore girls)

Legends (sure place for shore boys)

Eastside (one bar that doesn't play 'uplifting intellectual house')

# PIGS

Not the cute ones they have on the Clear advert, these are baton wielding, no nonsense lads who are embittered because they were unable to get into their first career choice of being a bouncer. Best known for breaking up student pub crawls and generally beating people up, Auckland Police are among the most violent in the country. Smiling annoys them and asking for small things like directions is likely to get you arrested. The New Zealand Police force is the only one left in the world who still accept the old South African official explanation that Steve Biko wasn't beaten to death, but slipped in his shower 35 times. The simple truth is that when dealing with the cops in any capacity you should only ask for your rights when there are lots of witnesses. It is a sad but true fact that if the cops perceive you as a 'smart arse student' (and asking for your rights suggests to them that you're a little brighter than the general populace they bully) then they will 'slap' you 'round a bit. It might help, when they have hit you, to hum that neat little song about Mr Policeman not being heavy, but being your Brother.

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

(but for fucks sake don't try to enforce)

- You only have to give your name, address, date of birth and occupation (not employer's name).
- You don't have to give any other information unless you are driving a vehicle, then you must supply the name and address of the owner of the vehicle.
- You do not have to accompany an officer unless you have been arrested (if in doubt ask "Am I under arrest?"; if not refuse to go) or you are being dealt with under the Transport Act as a suspected drunken driver or you are found intoxicated in a public place.
- You do not have to consent to a search of yourself, your car, or your property without a search warrant being presented unless the officer invokes the Misuse of Drugs Act Sections (ii) & (iii), the Firemans Act, or arrests you.
- Once arrested you have the right to be informed of the reason for the arrest, the right to consult a lawyer (don't say anything until you've talked to a lawyer) the right to be informed of your rights (if you forget them, ask the officer to inform you of your rights).
- If you are arrested the police have to charge you within 4 hours (they might change the exact charge between the initial arrest and the Police station). They also must allow you to phone your lawyer or family - if not they are contravening the Bill of Rights.

## BOUNCERS

Most of you will be well aware that bouncers are not the worlds quickest thinkers. Possibly the best example of why expectant Mothers shouldn't drink, Bouncers are a product of our society. Try remembering that when they're bashing you.

WORST EXCUSES FOR NOT HAVING ID

"I left it in Mum's car"

"Dog ate it"

"But they let me in at the Globe"

"Fuck off I'm going in and there ain't anything you and your three 7 foot ugly goons can do about it"

## Traffic Wardens

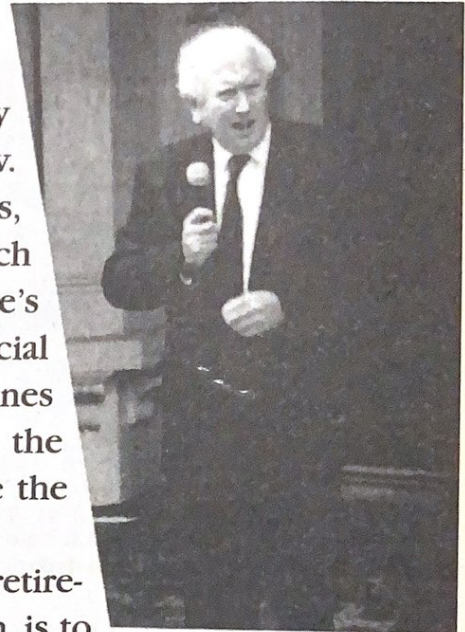
Also known as TFW (Those Fuck-ing Wankers) Traffic Wardens have increasingly been getting their fair share of shit lately as parking space gets smaller and smaller and they write more and more parking tickets. Seeing as Traffic Wardens are paid a commission for the tickets they write, it doesn't take a genius to figure out that they are going to hunt in the richest fields and so pick on students and capitilise on our parking woes. Rumour has it that the University and the Auckland City Council have a deal whereby the University doesn't provide us with any car parks and so gets a percentage deal on all tickets the Council write. There isn't really a hell of a lot students can do by lobbying University so it's been suggested that direct action is a better form of approach. All car drivers are being asked to pay a \$1 levy every week to buy 16 dozen eggs to pelt the TFW's with as they walk up and down Princess Street. Sound like a good idea? Quick then, call the National Affairs Officer, Michael McFadden on 309 0789 with your donation.





# Vice Chancellor: Kit "The Law Man" Carson

A failed American radio DJ named after his gun-slinging grandfather, Kit used to earn money by doing the voice of Shaggy on the Scooby Doo Show. You can rent Kit out to do childrens birthday parties, funerals and barmitzvas. But as a VC Kit has as much idea of the plot as Boris Yeltsin off the wagon, in fact he's been known to "do a Boris" at many important official functions by grabbing the mic and belting out a few tunes such as "Born to be Wild," "Stairway to Heaven" and the unforgettable rendition of "Send in the Clowns." Like the last VC, Kit can look forward to a golden handshake of half the University's annual budget upon his retirement. The whole purpose of the VC, as Kit has shown, is to take all the attention off the real wankers who run the place, and they are:-



*Kit doing a 'Boris'*

## **Warwick Nicoll:**

The man who gave grey suits a bad name, Warwick was artificially bred for the job of Registrar. Starting at the age of 9 in 1912 his Byzantine rule will continue into the next millennium - "unmolested by so-called 'accountability'" - he has been known to scoff. Any impropriety and in selling the student carpark to Mainzeal last year has been brushed off as easily as the abundant dandruff from his well-padded shoulders.

## **Works Committee:**

Girls are not permitted on the Works Committee as it's a boys only affair inside the secretive "sand pit" that is the committee room deep in the bowels of the impressive Maths-Science-Atomic Power Research building (a replica of the East German Stasi HQ). Women are encouraged to bring a plate however and leave the real work to the MEN. The boys spend hours "in committee" wearing hard hats and poring over the latest architect's models of the monstrous, concrete bunkers they claim are as environmentally harmonious as the rest of the ghastly neo-Stalanist eyesore of a campus. The committee has sunk trillions of student dollars into producing these models so that they suit the scale of their Tonka toys.



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# movies

## Romeo and Juliet

### -Version 1



What you can never avoid with Romeo and Juliet is that they are Shakespeare's dorkiest heroes. Shakespearean tragedy is about the protagonist vs. everything else, and the inevitable crushing defeat of the individual. The tragedy with Romeo and Juliet - the play, the characters and the movie - is that everything else wins because everything else is way cooler. The guns, the racial gang wars, the brand-names, the sexual tension between Romeo and Mercutio (a black drag queen instead of an old codger), the fact that white Americans can't get their mouths around Shakespeare but African Americans can, the

helicopters sweeping over Mexico City ...er, Verona Beach, the violence, the squalor... But all credit to Leonardo and Claire for a solid effort. Well, who could complain about Leonardo Dicaprio (phwoaar!!!!)? and *My So Called Lifer* Claire Danes is just, like, cool, y'know? And doesn't it just, like suck, when you meet like, this guy right? And you just got over Jordan Catallano after like forever, and then this Romeo right, he goes and totally dicks all over your cousin? Well, like, whatever, okay?

*Semantic*

## The Island of Doctor

### Moreau

% of the Craccum contingent at saw this movie (ie the ad manager, the ad manager's friend and the ad manager's girlfriend) thought it was crap. The remainder (me) had perhaps pulled too much free preview sauvignon Blanc and found it a flicking good ride. Apparently based on an H G Wells novel, *The Island of Doctor Moreau* covers the well trodden and predictable ground of nan's" descent into "animal-ness". The 'civilised narrator', a peace settlement advisor (who is rescued from a plane crash in the Indonesian Ocean and brought to an island where Moreau (Marlon Brando, huge, pitish, pious and befuddled) is trying to fuse animal into humans with DNA grafting. Poor Marlon thinks his 'superhumans' will be a vast improvement on the current crop. His first batch includes Temuera Morisson as something which used to be a pig, and whose funny bone is

connected to his trigger finger. Inevitably survival of the fittest takes over, and there's a mutiny led by a character called Hyena-Swine - a dead ringer for Chew-baccal. Everything happens rather quickly from this point, with some way cool Planet of the Apes-style fight scenes. The Island of Doctor Moreau seems like the kind of film kids might end up studying for School C-heavy-handed on the symbolism (mutilated bunny rabbit anyone?). It aims high, trying to pull off the epic grandeur avec eternal themes of humanity trick (complete with voiceovers and shots of random ethnic violence), but the silly costumes (though pretty impressive, especially if seen in H G Wells' era) automatically shift it into a B-movie frame of reference. Still, an A-grade soundtrack, and some snappy editing (especially the opening credits), go a long way towards keeping things stylish and even sinister. And what was wrong with Planet of the Apes anyway?

*Semantic*

## Romeo and Juliet -Version 2

Wow, wow and fucking wow. I've seen as many film adaptations as I can of Willies work, and this is by far the most dynamic version to date. From opening scene to closing credit, this is a piece of cinema magic. With lightening quick cuts and his choice of leading cast, (Leonardo De Caprio and Claire Danes) director/producer Baz Luhrmann's modern re-interpretation knows where to hit the pulse and purse of Gen-Xers. The acting is spot on, with De Caprio playing Romeo with all the turbulent post-Nirvana angst a modern interpretation of the role needs. Danes simply continues the acting style which won over her *My so called Life* fans (come to think of it she did the same in *Little Women*, I'm suspecting this is her only style). All the actors have mastered that difficult ability to 'speak Shakespeare', which only adds to its unique authenticity (take a peek at this years Summer Shakespeare to see what happens when this skill isn't mastered). Acting aside, the film is a marvel of rich image. From the heavy religious imagery to the romantic fantasy,

this film shines. Miss this at your peril.  
*Mr Bombastic*



**GET DOWN ON FRIDAY**  
**\$5 Student Tickets**

Any friday session before 5pm  
 Any student with current ID  
 Any Village Cinema Complex  
 (not applicable during school holidays)



## INTERFERENCE

Prong exist no longer... Marilyn Manson are touring in a month... The US release date for **Helmet's** "Aftertaste" is March 4 - the album's been held back since September because the band weren't ready to tour it... **Supergrass** album "In It For The Money" is due out in May... new **Rollins Band** due out March... **Chemical Brothers** have a fresh one coming out April... **Korn** are still rumoured to be coming in May... New **Pennywise** album is called "Full Circle" and is the first release since the suicide of founding member Jason Thirsk - several of the songs are tributes... **Frank Sinatra** is reportedly spending \$2.3 Billion on research into cryogenics in the hope that he'll live forever... Hip hopper **Diamond D's** Hatred, Passion and Infidelity is out March 4, **Porno for Pyro's** are touring, but the Jane's Addiction reunion reunion have come to nought... **Deftones** are in California recording...

# MUSIC

## Future Stupid - CANNON FODDER (FUTURE STUPID)

The Stupid's debut album punches as hard as their warm-up ep promised it would. The rhythm section now boasts Jason Young (ex-Love's Ugly Children) on bass, which adds a certain obnoxious brutality to the dirty guitar riffs of lead singer Tony Hallum. Loose grooves punctuated by pounding skins give the Stupids a Fugazi-meets-Helmet feel, though lyrics prove they take themselves a lot less seriously than most bands this heavy. *Cannon Fodder* shows Future Stupid are more than ready to pick up where Shihad left off.

## Various - DANGER U.E.D. (Emotif/ Subtronix)



The creators of *TechStepping's* follow-up prove drum 'n bass can mutate at an exponential rate. Inside it's **dark**, metallic, rhythmic hollow; with liquid acid b-lines that swirl insidiously under a surface. Droppin' bombs like a B-52, one of the coolest things *Danger U.E.D.* is the very danceable hedfuk quality about these DJ Trace gives the seminal "Horny Mutant Jazz" another nasty spin while Elementz of Noize blow b-lines to all hell with "Planet Words" - "The" and "Shit". Excellent.

## Silverchair - FREAKSHOW

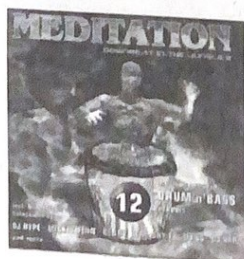
As easy and right as it is to dismiss Silverchair, they're at least headed in the right direction when they list Helmet as inspiration. While *Freakshow* doesn't deliver anywhere close to the pedigree of this band, it frequently displays the potential to. Silverchair are a talented band whose biggest failing, (and it's a whopper) is a lack of maturity. *Freakshow* is certainly good enough to shift some serious units but falls rather short of its own ambitions. OK, but they need a few more years before they'll start earning respect.

Uncle Arthur



## Various - MEDITATION - DOWNBEAT IN THE JUNGLE 3 (WARNERS)

As far as major label releases of drum 'n bass go, you expect the K-Mart hype of "12 of the most tearin' drum 'n' bass anthems"... and you certainly get it. What you don't expect is for them to be any good. However, *Meditation*, for all its madness, levels a consistent funk factor. With DJ Hype rollin' fatness, freedom on "Peace, Love and Unity", Urban Takeover big with the on "Coz We're Rollin'" and assorted others regularly hitting the mark, it isn't a bad foray into the jungle.



## APHEX TWIN - Richard D James (WARNERS)

Every now and then Captain Kirk and his polyester clad buddies to stray into a parallel universe where shit is all messed up. Aphex Twin calls such places home. Innocence is made perverse. So



# RECYCLE YOUR CDs

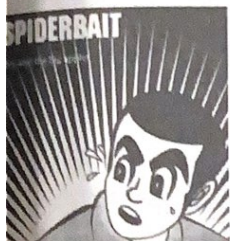


that's the modus operandi on *Richard D. James*. Samples that sound straight out of a kiddies program abound, joined to warped beats in the most unholy matrimony. Antithetical sounds are grafted on to one another, breathing a creepy aural subtext - twisted amphetamine beats, sonar, and alien noise. *Richard D. James* is sonic propagation by a mad scientist.

Mr. Bungle

#### SPIDERBAIT - IVY AND THE BIG APPLES (POLYGRAM)

Fact: music reviewer plus chunky, fuzzed out riffs with a fat bottom end equals masturbatory prose and tired blunt instrument analogies. Self-control is required to review *Ivy and the Big Apples* because Spiderbait's riffs are *solid*. Sneaker clad feet stay firmly planted on the effects pedal for most of the album, sounding like early Smashing Pumpkins, but with a sense of humour. Hendrix-esque fusion jams, dance beat driven instrumentals and infernally catchy pop tunes that are sweet, but not saccharine mean Spiderbait have the best kind of musical schizophrenia.



#### DIRTY THREE - HORSE STORIES (FLYING IN)

Prototype for a three-piece: bass, drums, guitar. Someone sings. The Dirty Three: guitar, drums, violin. No-one sings. No-one *needs* to. Vocals are utterly superfluous to the maelstrom of howling violin, tribal drums, and edgy guitar on *Horse Stories*. Songs begin eerily, brewing into epic proportions, unrivaled for sheer brooding menace and the ability to convey violence and pain sonically. The Dirty Three possess the atmosphere building skills of Slint and a cinematic quality that makes each song a surreal vignette. Intense and nervy, *Horse Stories* is uneasy, but rewarding, listening.

Angst Boy



#### PAVEMENT - BRIGHTEN THE CORNERS (FLYING IN)

Pavement take a free association approach to songwriting. When it came to recording albums, they used to do the same. *Brighten the Corners* is their first recorded with all five members in the studio, all at the same time. It shows. After the (not so) *Wowee Zowee*, Pavement have their shit together. *Brighten the Corners* ebbs and flows. It rocks. Then it rolls with some more bent melodies and plaintive tunes. It's experimental, sometimes verging on the epic, other times straying into Sonic Youth territory, but always reconciling "indie" with "rock", proving that "indie-rock" needn't be an oxymoron.

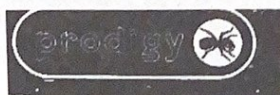
Mr. Rorschach



#### GHOSTFACE KILLAH (featuring RAEKWON and CAPPADONNA) - IRONMAN (EPIC/SONY)

Wu-Tang solo joint number five: the Wu saga continues. Ghostface Killah and Chef Raekwon reprise their partnership from *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx*, joined by Cappadonna. The RZA handles production once again, which means the trademark eerie Wu-Tang sound in full effect, complemented by dope beats, sirens, horns, strings, and dusty old soul samples used in new ways - check *The Soul Controller* featuring Sam Cooke's *A Change Is Gonna Come*. The RZA continues to innovate, the Clan continue their takeover of the industry, the saga continues.

moneyasshomie40ouncegangstakilla-G



GIMME...  
GIMME...

PRODIGY. THEY BLEW YOUR MIND, YOUR EARS, YOUR PRECONCEPTIONS, and most of the other acts off the stage at the Big Day Out. In Your Ear have 5 copies of the CD-single *Breathe* to give away to the first five punters to come up to the Craccum offices and tell us the name of the most recent Prodigy album. Big, big ups to Nicky at BMG for making it happen.

# REAL GROOVY

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