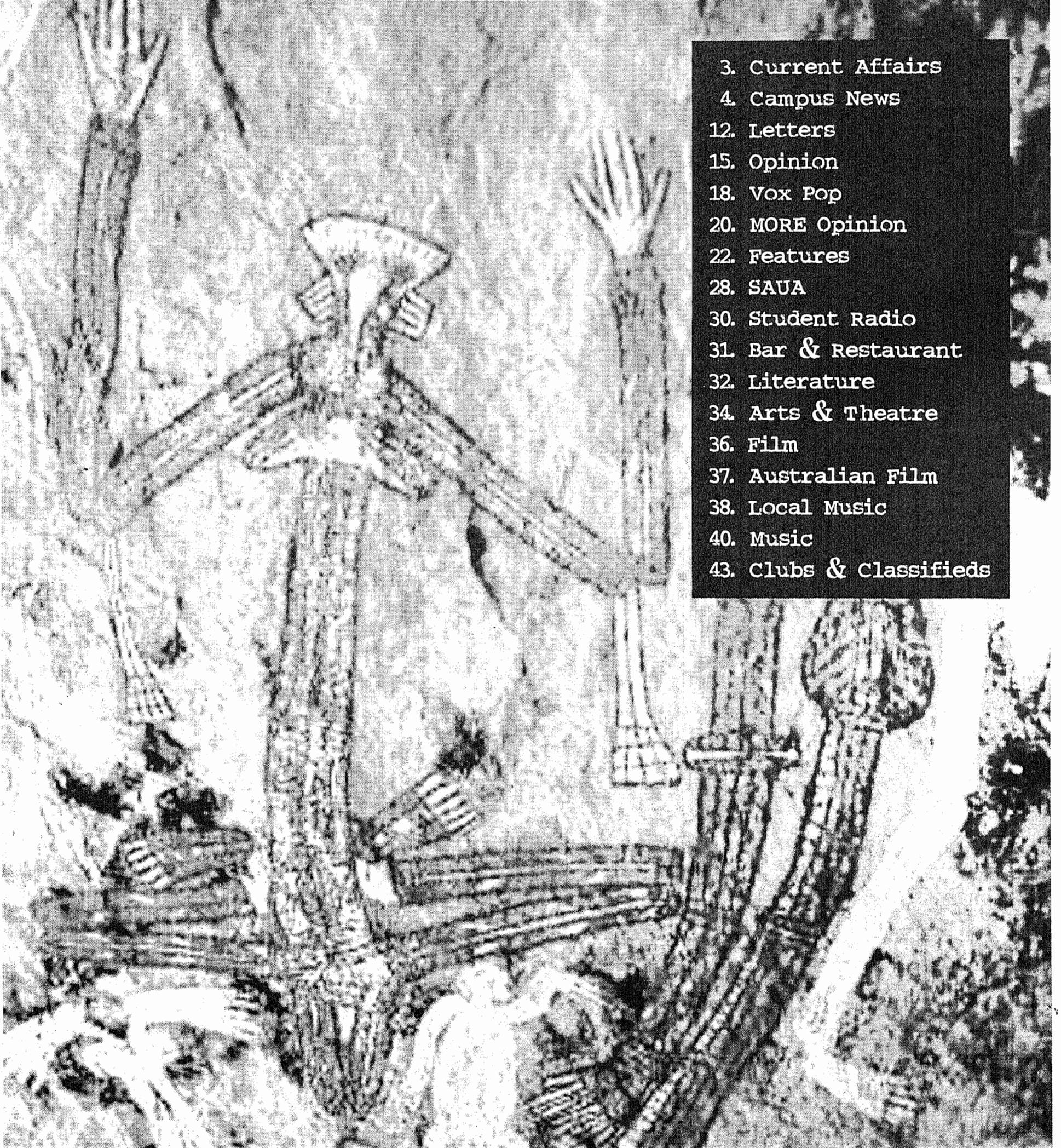


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Volume 71 Edition 17 20.10.2003



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*On Dit* is the weekly student publication of the Students' Association of the University of Adelaide. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Editors or the Association.

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**Wanna write?**  
Come on down to the *On Dit* hovel, located in the basement of the George Murray Building. Or for a more pleasant aroma, email us at [ondit@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:ondit@adelaide.edu.au) or call us on 8303 5404 or 8303 6490.

**Thanks**  
Peter Day, Jimmy T, Mattyo, Maximum Maximile for the cigarettes and soy milk, gin (unless you're Stan), The Store, the little taste of summer we had this week, Henley Beach, Matt Fisher, Victoria, Victoia's weed, Darren.

## Editorial

Welcome to the Environment/Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander edition of *On Dit*. The recent introduction of an ATSI department to the SAUA has provided an opportunity for us to piece together an additional themed edition and introduce some (long overdue) indigenous works and topics of discussion to the wider student populace.

Contentious indigenous issues in Australia, more often than not, are not just concerned with ATSI people themselves, but often relate to the link that these people have forged with their native environment. Much of Aboriginal culture was borne from, and remains inextricably linked with the earth; from the traditional methods of survival from the land stemming back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, to the morals encapsulated in Dreamtime stories, to the importance placed on the preservation of natural resources (which has managed to attract the attention of the mainstream media and middle Australia alike - refer to 'Toxic debate over nuclear waste dump' on page 4). Let it be noted though that issues such as nuclear waste disposal seem to have only gained importance in the public eye since the proposal that South Australia act as a host to what would be the largest repository in this country. I'm sure that this tardy public interest would come as no relief to those indigenous communities who lived exposed to the Jabiluka uranium mine from the late '90s onwards.

Given this cosy relationship, it seems that the ATSI and Environment themes were bound to be appropriate bedfellows. (Also, we are running out of money fast, and no-one seemed to complain.)

Whilst compiling this edition, we realised that despite our best intentions, and the efforts of the SAUA's ATSI Officer Darren Kurtzer, we have had little luck soliciting submissions from indigenous students on campus. This was alarming for two reasons: 1. it raises concerns about the number of ATSI students that are currently enrolled at the University of Adelaide (and universities in general), and 2. it left three white, reasonably privileged university students to provide some type of insight in to indigenous culture (we're sorry Spivak). For this we apologise. We only hope this edition will act as a catalyst to both awareness and discussion of indigenous and environmental issues on campus, and an influx of relevant articles and letters will follow as a result.

**Cruickshank, Clark & Mahoney**

# The Australian Water Crisis

## The story of a drying resource

Few Australians seem to have accepted the seriousness of Australia's water crisis, despite the fact that our nation is the second driest continent on earth. Our situation is desperately simple: water is a finite resource and unless we make drastic changes to the way we manage our water, it is going to become increasingly scarce and significantly more costly in years to come.

The Murray Darling Basin supplies two thirds of the water for Australia's irrigation farmers as well as 50 percent of Adelaide's water supply. However, like many of our inland waterways the Murray is in dire shape. Australia is experiencing the worst drought in over 100 years but due to increasing salinity levels irrigators can no longer rely on water drawn from our inland rivers and dam water is almost completely dried up.

The mouth of the Murray River has been closed for two years recent government salinity audit for the Murray-Darling system reports that by 2020, Adelaide's drinking water will exceed the World Health Organisation salinity threshold 20 percent of the time. By 2050 it is believed that salinity levels will have further increased rendering Adelaide drinking water unsafe over 50 percent of the time. Even now, water drawn from the lower regions of the Murray often retains a distinctly salty taste and unless salinity levels can be controlled fifty percent of Adelaide's water supply will soon be undrinkable.

Yet we still have a limited knowledge about the real causes of salinity in Australia and scientists urge that money needs to be invested into effective monitoring of our water resources in order to better understand the water and salt cycles. The monitoring of Australia's water resources is a State and Territory government responsibility, yet experts assert that their efforts are inadequate. The flows and quality of water in our inland waterways is subject to some government and scientific assessment, but this takes place at far too few locations. Furthermore, state governments spend only \$2 per Australian each year on research which should enable us to understand and preserve our most valuable resource. In comparison, Sydney Water allocates about \$10 per person to screening the quantity and quality of the water it supplies, even though it uses less than 1 percent of the nation's water resources.

Debates about the Australian water crisis have previously focused on the availability of this resource and the current drought. Global warming also threatens to reduce rainfall and CSIRO modeling predicts that southern Australia will receive up to 20 percent less rain in years to come. However the water crisis is no longer just about quantity but also the quality of Australian water. According to the CSIRO, in 1995-96 Australia only

used 19,950 gigalitres or 20 percent of its divertible fresh water resource, which indicates that the important question is not one of water supply but of water sustainability.

As a result, Australian governments are now shifting their focus to the way in which we manage the supply of urban water. Storm water has previously been considered a waste product, of which less than three percent has been re-used throughout the nation. However, it may soon become a viable source of water for Australian households. The reuse of sewage treatment plant effluent, in Australia, is also expected to increase in years to come, having already doubled since 1998. A large proportion of this effluent is still discharged into the sea and increased levels of recycling will therefore also have a positive effect on our oceans. According to Larry Little, chief of the CSIRO's building, construction and engineering division, "the opportunities for storm water and reclaimed water re-use are huge in Australia." He further explains that "a national water re-use research program

have also introduced a water efficiency rating scheme, in which householders are encouraged to fit their homes with more water efficient appliances. Under these schemes more efficient toilet and shower fittings will be compulsory, and this may soon be the case in South Australia.

Water is an indispensable and limited resource and it is clear that the future wellbeing of our nation depends on local councils and state governments ensuring the wise management and care of this resource. Yet in spite of the measures already in force 22-year-old Adelaide University student, Lisa, remains concerned about the long term effects of the wasteful water ways of young Australians. "It's time for Australians to think ahead, about the way in which our water use now, will determine our welfare and lifestyles in 50 years time," she said. Aspiring environmental lawyer and life member of Trees For Life, Lisa also expressed anger at the way in which "people continue to splash water around with abandon" despite the fact that water restrictions are already in force.

According to SA Water, the utility

**Even now, water drawn from the lower regions of the Murray often retains a distinctly salty taste and unless salinity levels can be controlled fifty percent of Adelaide's water supply will soon be undrinkable.**

is needed to address issues including social acceptance, costs of technologies and perceived environmental and human health risks, and to reduce the risks of failures in existing projects."

SA Water and the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation are working together on the Water Proofing Adelaide Strategy which will look at effective management and long term sustainable use of all available water resources including storm water and increased use of treated wastewater. Level two water restrictions have also been in effect in South Australia since July 1. Under these restrictions the non-essential use of water for garden watering, the hosing of driveways and paved areas and car washing has been limited. The restrictions also extend to the irrigation of sports grounds and public facilities such as median strips and some parks and gardens.

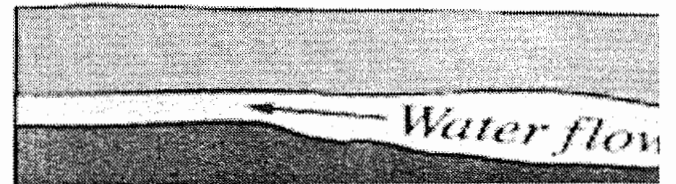
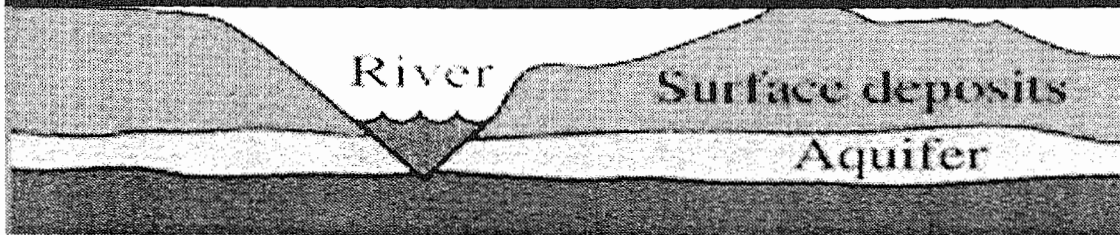
The Adelaide City Council has recently introduced a water conservation scheme trial in which council residents are offered reimbursements on the purchase and installation of water conservation devices. The scheme is a further attempt at improving the efficiency of our water use and reducing reliance on both the River Murray and our local water supply. Sydney and Melbourne

receives about 150 calls a day from residents like Lisa who are concerned about potential abuses of the current water restrictions. According to Roger Perry, the general manager of operations, SA Water has already issued over a hundred warnings but is yet to issue any fines. In spite of continued advertising and media awareness it seems that a number of South Australians perceive the water crisis to be some sort of joke. They could not be more wrong, for South Australia is already feeling the impact of the nationwide crisis. For the first time ever our state will not receive its full allocation of water from the river Murray this financial year and if level two water restrictions prove ineffective, South Australians will be subject to even tighter regulations.

In the United Kingdom it is not surprising to hear people comment "the water I'm drinking has been through seven kidneys already" and Australians could soon be saying the same. The time has come to think about the real price we are paying for our water use.

**Rosie Sidey**

# TOXIC BATTLE OVER NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP



The battle against the Federal Government's plan for a national nuclear waste dump near Woomera is reaching boiling point.

The Federal Government has completed its Environmental Impact Statement - no great accomplishment since the EIS was written, reviewed and rubber-stamped its own EIS. An upcoming licensing process involving the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) is also a fait accompli, since this regulatory agency is far from independent and has a track record of deceit and backflips.

But there's still a good chance the dump plan can be beaten. The government has compulsorily acquired the dump site, but that has resulted in three pending legal challenges (from the state government, one of the three native title claimant groups, and from the Pobke family which owns the sheep station on which the government wants to build the dump).

There is overwhelming opposition to the dump in SA:

- \* 68-95% of South Australians oppose the dump according to numerous polls over the past five years.

- \* The SA Parliament has legislated to ban the dump (this legislation is likely to underpin a legal challenge by the state government against the federal regulator ARPANSA next year, after ARPANSA has granted a licence to build the dump).

- \* The union movement is overwhelmingly opposed. The state and national peak union bodies, the SA United Trades and Labor Council, and the Australian Council of Trade Unions, oppose the dump.

- \* Between the Lucas Heights nuclear reactor plant in Sydney and the Woomera dump site in SA, 16 out of 18 local councils oppose the dump and the plan to truck radioactive waste through their communities.

- \* A number of emergency service organisations are opposed to the dump, such as the SA Firefighters' Union.

- \* Last but not least, Indigenous groups such as the Kupa Piti Kungka Tjuta (a senior Aboriginal women's council), and the Kokatha native title claimants, are leading the campaign against the dump.

## Why oppose the nuclear dump?

So why all the fuss? There are over

a dozen strong reasons to oppose the dump. Many of the people campaigning against the dump do so in solidarity with the Kupa Piti Kungka Tjuta, elderly women with strong cultural connections to land across northern SA. The dump would amount to the forced imposition of radiological hazards on unwilling Aboriginal communities. This is all the more objectionable since many of the Aborigines affected are victims of the British nuclear weapons testing at Maralinga in the 1950s and early 1960s, and still bear the physical and social scars from that atrocity.

But aren't we - as the government says - just talking about disposing a small amount of low-level waste, most of it a by-product of nuclear medicine, in the safest possible site? Amazing how many lies the government can pack into one media sound-bite:

- \* The dump is not just for low-level waste but also for short- and long-lived intermediate-level waste (the latter being the highest category of waste produced in Australia according to the government's classifications).

- \* The initial offering of radioactive waste is certainly small, but the dump will take an unlimited amount of radioactive waste for an unlimited amount of time.

- \* The government's claim that most of the waste is a by-product of nuclear medicine is false, it's contradicted by the government's own figures, and it amounts to nothing more than emotive propaganda.

- \* The claim that SA is the "safest" site is false and it is contradicted by the government's own scientific siting study.

Nor is it clear that trucking the waste to dispose of it in a shallow, unlined trench at Woomera would reduce the risks compared to the current arrangements whereby waste producers store their own waste. Consider some advantages of continuing to store waste where it is:

- \* it avoids altogether the risks associated with transportation (according to the federal government, there is a 23% risk of one truck accident shifting the existing inventory to Woomera);

- \* forcing waste producers to manage their own waste encourages waste minimisation, whereas the provision of an out-of-sight-out-of-mind option can

only lead to profligacy in radioactive waste production; and

- \* the dump would only take waste every 2-5 years, so waste producers need proper on-site facilities even if the dump goes ahead, and once they all have adequate facilities the dump becomes a solution in search of a problem.

One further reason to maintain existing arrangements is that it would be the height of folly to pass management of existing stockpiles from scientific, medical and nuclear organisations to the federal Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST), the department which is responsible for the dump.

DEST has recently demonstrated its incompetence with the latest 'clean-up' of the Maralinga nuclear test site - a mountain of information released by nuclear engineer and Maralinga whistle-blower Alan Parkinson is testament to DEST's incompetence. The government breached national and international standards during the 'clean-up' of Maralinga and there's no reason to believe the dump project would be handled more responsibly. The government cut corners at Maralinga in order to cut costs - whose to say the same won't happen with the nuclear waste dump? As Alan Parkinson said on ABC radio last year, "What was done at Maralinga was a cheap and nasty solution that wouldn't be adopted on white-fellas land."

Parkinson isn't the only scientist critical of aspects of the Maralinga 'clean-up'. Another whistle-blower, US-based geochemist Dale M. Timmons, has put his neck on the line by publicly criticising the project. A key decision (shallow burial of plutonium-contaminated debris) was strongly opposed by Dr. Mike Costello from the government's own advisory committee. And a senior ARPANSA officer, Dr. Geoff Williams, complained about a "host of indiscretions, short-cuts and cover-ups" during the 'clean-up'.

In fact a number of organisations involved in the botched Maralinga 'clean-up' are now involved in the dump project - the federal government, DEST, the puppet regulator ARPANSA, and at least one private contractor (which has refused to answer a string of questions about its work at Maralinga, preferring instead to threaten one of its critics with a defamation suit for posting a critique

by Alan Parkinson on the internet).

The government should cancel the plan for a nuclear waste dump and clean up Maralinga instead.

## What you can do to fight the nuclear waste dump ...

1. Get involved in the campaign. We've got lots of ideas to build the campaign in the coming months, so please join in. Over 30 people attended the first meeting of a new no-dump campaign group on October 8, and we're meeting each Wednesday in the Conservation Council on Wednesday's at 6pm. Contact Jim at the Friends of the Earth office in the Conservation Council, 120 Wakefield St, ph 8227 1399, <jim.green@foe.org.au>.

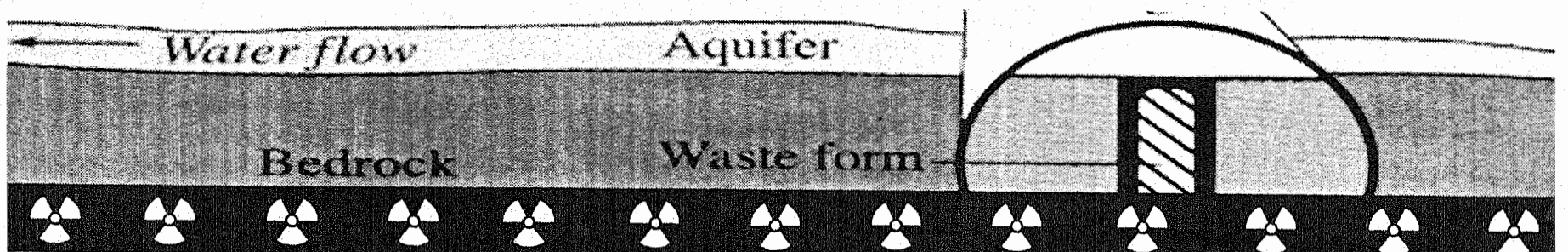
2. Write a submission to the regulator ARPANSA stating your reasons for opposing the dump. The deadline for submissions on the dump licensing process is November 8. For more information, visit

<[www.arpansa.gov.au/reposit/nrwr.htm](http://www.arpansa.gov.au/reposit/nrwr.htm)>. Individual submissions are best, but you can also print and post the proforma submission posted at the Friends of the Earth website <[www.foe.org.au](http://www.foe.org.au)>. The FoE website also has briefing notes to help you write your own submission.

3. Write to Prime Minister John Howard expressing your opposition to the nuclear dump. The SA state government recently put a full-page ad in The Advertiser asking people to write to the PM, so let's make sure he gets a barrage of letters. Address: Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600. Best to write and post, but you can also email via this website: <[www.pm.gov.au/email.cfm](mailto:www.pm.gov.au/email.cfm)>.

4. Keep in touch by subscribing to 'No Nukes News' (1-2 electronic newsletters each month including updates on dump campaign). Send an email with 'Subscribe' as the subject to: <[dreamwoken@ace.net.au](mailto:dreamwoken@ace.net.au)>. For more information on the dump, visit <[www.iratiwanti.org](http://www.iratiwanti.org)> and <[www.geocities.com/jimgreen3](http://www.geocities.com/jimgreen3)>

Jim Green



# SOFTWARE LICENSING FOR STUDENTS

Enrolled students of The University of Adelaide are entitled to install select software on personally owned or leased computers under The University of Adelaide's software licensing agreements. Please see below the software available to students for installation on their personally owned/leased computers, software compliance requirements and procedures for obtaining the software. ITS will assist with the software requirements of students where possible under the University's software licensing agreements.

**Available Software.** Microsoft products, Adobe Acrobat and SPSS (statistical software) are not available to students under various University software licensing agreements. Student Editions of Microsoft products and SPSS software can be purchased from most bookshops and software suppliers, including Unibooks. Should students wish to convert documents to Adobe pdf format, they can use the University's Adlib Relay Service. The following table provides further information on how students may obtain commonly requested software.

SOFTWARE	AVAILABLE FROM	CONTACT DETAILS	FURTHER INFO.	PRICES AT SEPT. 2003
Adobe Acrobat	CSC	Fax: (08) 8216 4799 Phone: (08) 8216 4700	Require a fixed copy of the student's ID card	Win/Mac versions: \$149.10. Current prices for all Adobe products are available at: <a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user_services/licences/Adobe.html">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user_services/licences/Adobe.html</a>
Adobe Acrobat Reader	Download from the Adobe Reader web page	<a href="http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html">http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html</a>		Free download
Adlib Relay	Download from the University web pages	<a href="http://pdfwizard.adelaide.edu.au/homen.asp">http://pdfwizard.adelaide.edu.au/homen.asp</a>	<a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user_services/licences/Adlib_Relay2.html">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user_services/licences/Adlib_Relay2.html</a>	Free service
Endnote	ITS Administration	Fax: (08) 830 34400 Email: <a href="mailto:licensing@adelaide.edu.au">licensing@adelaide.edu.au</a>	Requires a Copyright Compliance Agreement	No additional charge
Microsoft	Bookshops and software suppliers, including Unibooks	Union House Phone: (08) 830 35034	Student editions available	Office XP Pro: \$351.00 Windows XP Pro: \$182.00
SPSS	Bookshops and software suppliers, including Unibooks	Union House Phone: (08) 830 35034	Student and graduate editions available	Student edition: \$99.95
Symantec Anti Virus	ITS Administration	Fax: (08) 830 34400 Email: <a href="mailto:licensing@adelaide.edu.au">licensing@adelaide.edu.au</a>	Requires a Copyright Compliance Agreement	No additional charge

**Software Compliance Requirements.** To obtain a copy of EndNote and/or Symantec Anti Virus software to install on personally owned/leased computers, students are required to complete relevant Copyright Compliance Agreements. Agreements can be downloaded from the Software Licensing web pages at: [https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user\\_services/licences/](https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user_services/licences/)  
Access to these pages is restricted to users with a valid LDAP username/Student ID and password. Copyright Compliance Agreements should be forwarded to ITS Administration, Level 7, 10 Pulteney Street, fax: 8303 4400.

**Obtaining Available Software.** On receipt of a student's Copyright Compliance Agreement, the required media will be loaned to the student and the student contacted to collect the media from ITS Reception. Students must present their Student ID card on collection and return the media within three working days.

The University is also permitted to provide copies of EndNote software to remote students. Remote students are not required to return the EndNote media unless convenient and a record of the student's details is kept, as required by the terms and conditions of the University's EndNote Agreement.

Students may also obtain software via their Faculty's Authorised Software Installers. This is often most convenient for students who are not studying at or within close proximity to the North Terrace Campus. A list of current Authorised Software Installers is available at: [https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user\\_services/licences/AuthorisedSoftwareInstallers.pdf](https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user_services/licences/AuthorisedSoftwareInstallers.pdf)

## For further information or assistance with Software Licensing -

Email Software Licensing at: [licensing@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:licensing@adelaide.edu.au)

Visit: [https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user\\_services/licences/](https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS/sales/user_services/licences/)

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THE UNIVERSITY  
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# Shutdown

**Federal government proposes new workplace measures for universities**

**University of Adelaide staff stop work for 24 hours as part of nationwide strike**

University staff around the country walked off the job for 24 hours last Thursday in solidarity with the National Tertiary Education Union in protest of the Federal Government's proposed changes to university industrial relations. Reports suggest 10,000 of the country's 40,000

university staff and academics joined the action. The Australian National University was the one institution exempted from the strike as it had struck a collective agreement with the NTEU to bypass the Government's proposals that staff be offered Australian Workplace Agreements.

Protesters slammed the Government's plans to directly link funding with successful workplace reforms as "blackmail", and criticised Education Minister Brendan Nelson's wish to remove funding for "silly" degrees. It was also rumoured that additional funding would be withdrawn from universities that provide links on their websites to union websites.

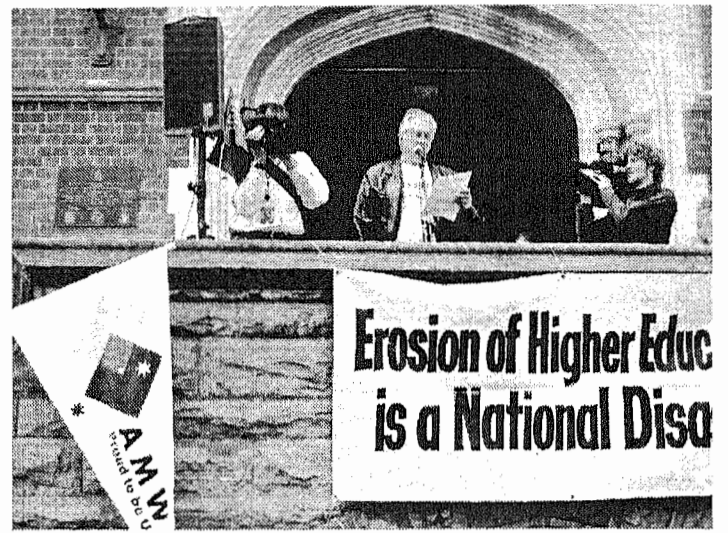
In South Australia, staff from all three universities and some students gathered outside Brookman Hall at the University of South Australia's City East campus at 1pm for an address from union leaders. The rally was a dignified gathering of academics and staff, most of whom appeared to have cut their teeth on industrial action and civil disobedience in the 1960s and '70s. The 400-strong crowd assembled on the lawns in front of Brookman Hall and spilled out onto the North Terrace footpath, holding placards declaring 'Protect university independence' and 'Quality staff deserve quality pay' as buzzwords like 'shame!', 'struggle', 'disgraceful', and 'comrades' flew through the air. Michael Venning, Robert Iseman and Ted Murphy from the NTEU addressed the gathering as well as Martin O'Malley and Andrew Ferguson of the CFMEU, Peter Christopher of the Community and Public Sector Union, Janet Giles of the United Trades and Labour Council, and Sarah Hanson-Young of the Students' Association. After messages of solidarity from other Australian unions and overseas educators' organisations, and discussion of the Government's proposed reforms to university workplaces and the tertiary education sector in general, a six-part resolution was passed with a rousing 'aye':

1. Noting widespread opposition to the Government's higher education package as a "gross and unwarranted attack on the autonomy of universities"
2. Condemning the Government's plans to further increase the level of contribution by students to the cost of their education
3. Condemning the linking Commonwealth funding to coercive conditions on workplace relations and governance
4. Condemning the Government's plans for VSU
5. Calling on the Senate to ensure the higher education package will not increase costs for students or reducing conditions for staff
6. Supporting a continuing campaign against the Government's measures, irrespective of any Senate vote
7. Calling for the restoration of high quality, properly funded, accessible and autonomous higher education institutions, open to all on the basis of merit alone.

As well as academic staff stopping work, the Adelaide University Union and its catering outlets shut their doors, and had its own small powwow on the Barr Smith Lawns after the rally outside Brookman Hall. Some university departments' staff sacrificed a day's pay but remained operational out of respect to students and clients who would have been inconvenienced by the strike, including the UniSA podiatry clinic, which stayed open for its elderly patients.

Despite the nationwide protests, the legislation linking \$400 million in university funding to workplace reforms was passed in the House of Representatives the same day.

Gemma Clark



Gawler Place  
Dental Centre

**DR. ANNA  
ROZITIS** BDS (Adel.)

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mushroom into painful  
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47 Gawler Place, Adelaide 5000

Brought to you by your Students' Association

# ATSI & Environment Week

October 20, 21, 22

Barr Smith Lawns

## Monday

10.30am: opening ceremony

11am: Torres Strait Islander performance

Lunch: roo snags, veggie patties, salad

## Tuesday

Lunch: roo snags, veggie patties, salad

12.30pm: Speech by Ms Shirley Peisley of the Reconciliation Council

## Wednesday

Lunch: roo snags, veggie patties, salad

12.30pm: Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) performance

6.30pm: free movie night, Union Cinema. Showing: *One Night the Moon* by Rachel Perkins

1pm: Aboriginal performance

- Information stalls
- Organic food
- Cheap alcohol
- Meet the committees

For more information contact Darren Kurtzer, ATSI Officer, in the SAUA on 8303 5406.

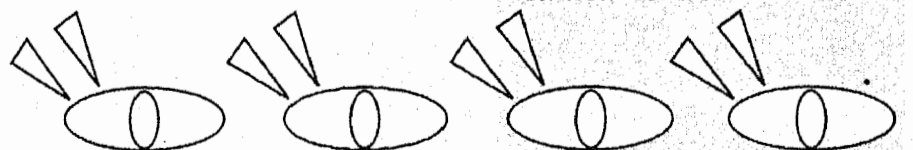
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Student Card Holders Save 15%

# Myth & Propaganda in White Australia

## Population Size & Age expectancy

In 2001 the ATSI population was estimated to be 458,520, or 2.4% of the total population.

In 1998-2000, life expectancy for Indigenous males was 56 years - 21 years less than for the total male population and a level similar to that experienced by Australian males in the period 1901-1910. In the same period, life expectancy for Indigenous females was 63 years - 20 years less than for the total female population and a similar level to that of Australian females in 1920-1922.

## Cancers

In 2001, malignant neoplasms accounted for 16% of Indigenous deaths compared with 29% of all deaths within the total Australian population.

The reason why Indigenous people do not die from cancers at the same rate of other Australians is they do not live long enough to, they are instead dying from cardiovascular diseases.

## Cardiovascular Disease

In 1998-2000, deaths from cardiovascular disease among ATSI males were 5.2 times higher than would be expected if the Indigenous population experienced the same age-specific death rates as the total male population (this comparative rate is known as the standardised mortality ratio SMR). The SMR for females was 4.7.

In 1998-2000, the median age for deaths of Indigenous males from cardiovascular disease was 58 years, compared with 78 years for the total male population. For Indigenous females, the median age of death from this cause was 65 years compared with 84 years for

## Imprisonment Rates

In 2002 the imprisonment rate for the Australian population was 151 prisoners per 100,000 adult population, while the imprisonment rate for the Indigenous population was 1,829 prisoners per 100,000 adult population.

In 2001 nearly 6% of all males aged 25 to 29 years were prisoners compared with 0.6% of all males of the same age cohort.

The proportion of prisoners who were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rose from 14% in 1991 to 20% in 2001.

## External Causes of Death

In 1998-2000 among Indigenous males and females there were 4.4 and 4.7 times more deaths respectively from external causes (such as accidents, poisonings and violence) than would have been expected from age-specific death rates for the total male and female populations.

Misconceptions are rife in Australia concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Unfair and unsubstantiated myths exist based on the premise that ATSI people gain unfair advantages over the wider population. In order to dispel these, here are some statistics which highlight the disparities that exist between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, and also act as interesting commentary on the result of oppression from a colonial power, and subsequent struggle for Indigenous folk to survive.

## CHANGE OF LOCATION

### LEARNING DISABILITY ACTION OFFICE, STUDENT ACCOMMODATION SERVICE & PARKLANDS MEDICAL PRACTICE

From Tuesday 30 September, Parklands Medical Practice, The Learning and Disability Access Office and the Accommodation Service are relocating to new premises to ensure more comfortable and accessible services.

The new locations for the services are as follows:

The Learning and Disability Access Office, the Hughes Plaza,  
Telephone: 8303 5962

The Accommodation Service, the Hughes Plaza,  
Telephone: 8303 5220

Parklands Medical Practice, Ground Floor Plaza Building,  
Telephone: 8303 5050

DIVISION OF STUDENT AND STAFF SERVICES  
The University of Adelaide

## Health Services and Access

In 1995/96 for government expenditure alone the ratio of Indigenous to non-Indigenous spending per person was over 1.5:1.

In 1995/95 nearly 80% of all health services for Indigenous people are managed by the States and Territories.

In 1995/96 patterns of health services are very different, with Indigenous people mostly using publicly funded hospital and community services, and spending much less on private doctors, private hospital care, dentistry, medicines and ancillary services.

## Mortality and Morbidity Rates

In 1998-2000, ATSI males and females at all ages had higher age specific death rates compared with the total population. In the younger age groups (less than 30 years) and among those aged 65 years and over, death rates for ATSI peoples were approximately four times that of the total population.

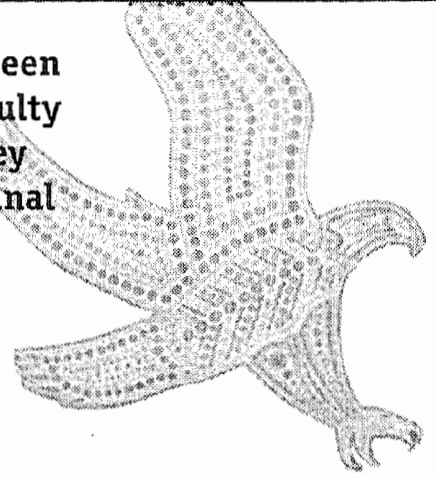
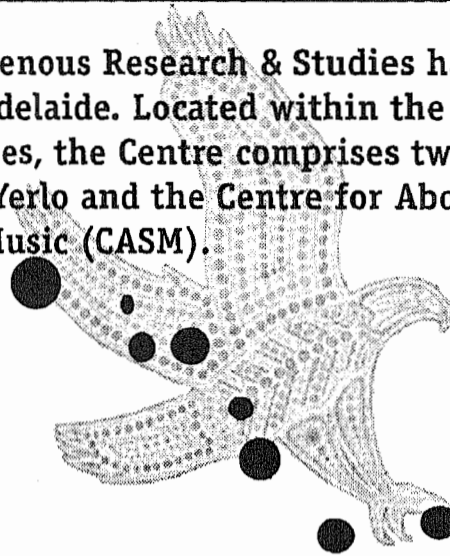
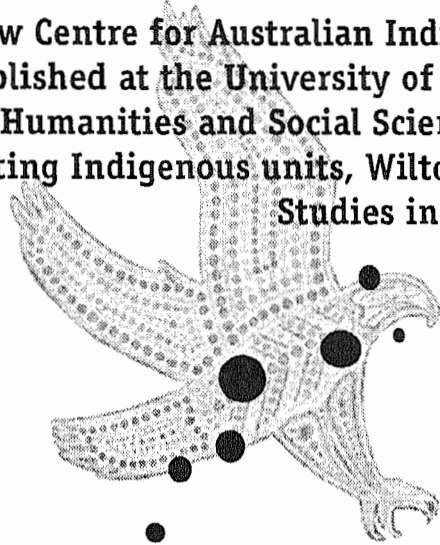
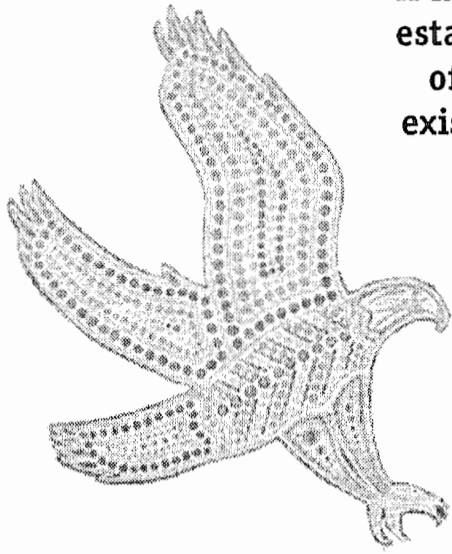
In 1995/96 mortality rates of Indigenous people, which are general indicators of health status, were on average three times those of other Australians.

In 2001 the Indigenous infant mortality rate was 11 deaths per 1,000 live births, double the total Australian infant mortality rate of five deaths per 1,000 live births.



# ATSI services on campus

A new Centre for Australian Indigenous Research & Studies has been established at the University of Adelaide. Located within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Centre comprises two key existing Indigenous units, Wilto Yerlo and the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM).



## CASM

CASM (The Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music) is the second key Indigenous unit within the new Centre. CASM is located on two sites: the studios at Finnis Street North Adelaide and the teaching area on the 6th floor of the Schulz Building, North Terrace. The Finnis Street studios include state of the art recording equipment. CASM offers a one-year certificate program and a two year Associate Diploma in Aboriginal Studies in Music as well as the foundation year.

CASM has achieved a national and international profile, through not only its innovative educational programs but also its performance, research, and community activities.

Since its inception, CASM has been at the forefront of innovation in curriculum development, responding directly to the identified learning needs and aspirations of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander music students.

## Wilto Yerlo

Wilto Yerlo is the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Academic and Student Support Program. In the language of the Kaurna people, Wilto Yerlo means 'Sea Eagle'. The sea eagle is the totem of the late Gladys Elphick who was one of the founders of Wilto Yerlo programs at the University of Adelaide.

Wilto Yerlo is responsible for administering the Special Entry Access Scheme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to all programs offered at the University of Adelaide as well as the delivery of foundation programs.

Student Support Officers at Wilto Yerlo provide support and advice to all ATSI students on such matters as personal issues, housing, financial management, academic advice and referral on matters affecting a student's ability to study.

The main administrative and student service area located "under the arches" on the ground floor of the Hartley Building houses a small student computing facility, a laser printer and photocopier, study room and kitchen area for student use.

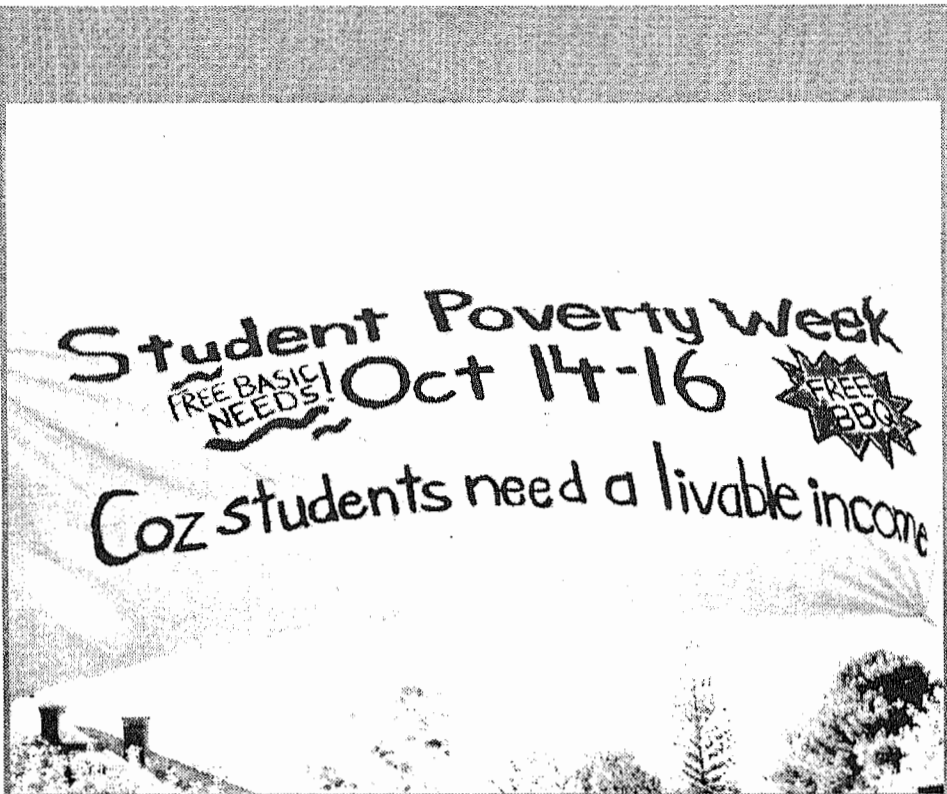
## On Dit 2004

is currently looking for a nutty team of semi-professionals to assemble the 72nd volume of everyone's favourite student newspaper.

If you have a thing for writing, deadlines and weird stimulants, stop by the SAUA Office (basement of the George Murray Building) and pick up an application form, available from Wednesday morning.

Current Affairs \* Opinion \* Wayward \* Campus News \* Science  
& Technology \* Wayward \* Film \* Music \* Art \* Theatre  
Local Music \* Advertising \* Wayward \* Literature \* Food &  
Wine \* Wayward \* Graphic Design \* Religion \* Proofreading  
Gonzo Journalism \* Wayward \* Backvard Dentistry





Organised by Education Vice-President Leah Marone and her standing committee, Student Poverty Week (October 14 - 16) featured union speakers, a lost property sale, a Students As Workers fashion parade, barbecue lunches and showbags, containing lubricant, condoms, fridge magnets promoting the morning-after pill, wire coathangers and rolls of toilet paper. Read into that what you will. We daren't comment. And was the poverty-stricken style of the promotional material (see above) ironic, deliberate or accidental?

## Reclaim the Night

is coming.

Support this international annual event supporting women's right to feel safe in public space and live without fear of violence.

### Friday, October 31

Meet at Victoria Square, 6.45pm

March to a surprise location, 7pm

Want to know more?

Reclaim the Night meetings are held at **Cafe DeVal** (formerly Fleet Street Cafe, Pulteney Street), Monday nights at 6.30pm

For more information contact Laura Butterworth on 0438 820 247.

# SAUA Roundup

The mid-semester break and the rescheduling of some On Dit publication dates mean there's a wealth of reporting to be made on the Students' Association. Well, you'd hope so, anyway.

September 17 saw the last sitting of SAUA Council for the general councillors elected last year. The main topic of discussion for the evening was quite a lengthy one, triggered by the ATSI and Environment Officers' request for funding from their respective budgets to subsidise Adelaide Uni students' travel to the Kunga Tjuta bush camp. The camp was held at Coober Pedy from September 28 to October 2 in the interest of forging links between anti-nuclear activists and the local indigenous people. After much debate over how much money would be dedicated, which budgets it would come from, and who would be eligible to be subsidised, a motion was passed to provide \$40 for each Adelaide University student who attends the gathering, up to \$600 (first \$500 from the ATSI department budget, \$100 from the environment department).

The discussion, although fruitful, was at times circular and confusing. Even those who were putting up the motions seemed unsure. For example:

Councillor and President-elect Alice Campbell, before taking seconder's rights: "Can you read it again?"

President Sarah Hanson-Young: "Didn't you write it?"

Campbell: "Sort of."

(motion is read)

Campbell: "The motion is pretty much self-explanatory. I'm just glad that people could hear it again."

As it turned out two weeks later, no Adelaide University students were known to have attended - even ATSI Officer Kurtzer and Environment Officer Grillo didn't make it up there. As such, no money was paid out.

Due to an initially modest turnout and councillors leaving early, the meeting lost quorum before the President's report was passed - and before a motion was put to thank the 2002 - 2003 councillors for their efforts. Oh well.

The meeting of October 15 was the first for the newly elected general councillors for 2003 - 2004. Nothing especially contentious came up, without any *in camera* discussion. News in brief: the SAUA office was used as the set of an office furniture commercial, the three hour lease earning it a tidy \$450. Apparently the company in question required an exceptionally messy office for its ad and had heard on the grapevine that the SAUA was a suitable candidate.

The SAUA successfully negotiated a joint press release with the University on October 1, voicing concerns over the Federal Government's proposed changes to higher education, which is no mean feat. "We are making a submission to the Senate today because of our concerns that access in South Australia may be reduced. This legislation needs to be re-visited in its current form," Vice-Chancellor James McWha said.

Female Sexuality Officer Emma O'Loughlin's notable absence from the SAUA over the past few weeks was attributed to illness.

Rumours of Women's Officer-elect Fiona Richardson resigning from her 2004 position were scotched by current Women's Officer Georgia Phillips saying she was starting changeover with her successor next week.

A special council meeting was declared for this week to clarify further action regarding the outstanding \$5000 or so the National Union of Students is asking of the SAUA as affiliation fees. The SAUA has already sent off about \$59,000 to NUS (the amount budgeted for), but due to a discrepancy in calculations by the two organisations, NUS says the SAUA owes more. Attempts by the SAUA President to seek clarification from NUS has apparently resulted in nothing more than a re-issued invoice, hand-delivered, no less.

Finally, as councillors began to grow restless, ATSI Officer Darren Kurtzer suggested the introduction of a Volunteer Officer as a ten-hour-a-week paid position to be responsible for recruiting and maintaining the SAUA's vital volunteer base. Maybe it was that the evening was wearing on, or that Kurtzer himself described it as a "tinsy twiddle" idea, but the discussion pretty much ended there.

Oh, and Environment Officer Paul Grillo resigned a couple of weeks ago. According to the former Environment Officer, his resignation was made necessary by his moving onto as yet unspecified "bigger and better things" in Sydney. After willingly collecting an honorarium since December last year, Grillo dropped out at the last gasp, just three weeks before the SAUA's scheduled Environment Week over which he was supposed to preside. Seeing as this is the most visible week of a environment officer's term, this seems pretty, well, pisspoor. Happily, Darren Kurtzer and the newly elected Environment Standing Committee have done an admirable job in stepping in to pick up the slack, pulling together a combined ATSI / Environment Week for this week. Enjoy!

Cruickshank, Clark & Mahoney

# Law, Power and Change

## and the myth of the conservative law student

THE PROGRESSIVE LAWYERS AND STUDENTS' NETWORK CONFERENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY, OCTOBER 2003

Law, Power and Change was the themed title of the inaugural Progressive Lawyers and Students' Network conference, held at the University of Technology's Quay Street campus in Sydney over the October long weekend.

The PLSN began with a small number of UTS students in 2001 and which has grown to five Sydney universities to date. It is committed to direct (not representative) democracy, the election and constant rotation of organisers, and a non-hierarchical structure. It is distinct from the LSS and the student union.

At the opening plenary on the Saturday afternoon, Michael Head, a senior lecturer in law at UWS, set the tone for the next few days when he spoke of a "new period of political radicalisation" and a "war on democratic rights". Andrew Wilkie, the former Senior Intelligence Analyst with the Office of National Assessments who resigned in protest over the Iraq invasion, was certainly not "mentally unstable" as some members of the Liberal Party and the press would have Australians believe. Talking about successive Australian governments' manipulative policies, since Whitlam's election in 1974, of periodically replacing departmental secretary heads, he raised specifically the issue of the public service culture in this country, where the "practice of being rewarded for not rocking the boat has become entrenched". His discussion of the "nobody told me" phenomenon necessarily involved comments about Howard, Alexander Downer and Phil Ruddock, and he moved into identifying other problems in Australia's public service system, including a lack of empowerment and a feeling of helplessness, knowing that careers could be on the line.

A workshop on Sunday entitled The New Interventionism: Regional Deputy Rides Roughshod Over Pacific was presented by AID/WATCH campaigner Tim O'Connor and long-time Papua New Guinean resident, teacher and commentator Father Paul Duffy. The workshop was enthralling, as I learned more about how Australia's Foreign Aid program works in practice. Duffy provided a short synopsis of the present state of affairs in PNG, where there is about 85% unemployment, where four-fifths of the population of 300,000 live in rural areas, where most of the profits made go to off-shore mining company bases, and which is experiencing a massive, endemic law and order crisis. One-sixth of total Australian aid goes to PNG, but most of this is spent on mining equipment, supermarket goods and rice, provided by Australian companies with bases in Sydney: the vast majority of aid money never leaves these shores. In an effort

to combat the law and order problems, which are threatening the operations of many Australian companies, AusAid committed \$120m two years ago to retrain PNG's police force. No-one quite knows where this money has gone, however, and Australia is now planning to send AFP officers to PNG at a multimillion dollar cost. According to O'Connor and Duffy, however, this is not what New Guineans want, but there has been no consultation. Cultural insensitivity is also a major theme, as Tim pointed to a recent sexual abstinence program which involved handing out flyers saying "Don't Fuck" in local languages, a campaign that offended many of the sexually conservative PNG peoples. Crime in PNG, like everywhere else, will not be solved with a greater police presence, and certainly not in a situation where the sixth-largest private recipient of Australian aid funds in PNG is the South Australian-based Downer Constructions...

During lunchtime, we were invited to attend a presentation by international human rights lawyer Rosemary Gillespie, who worked in Bougainville delivering medicines to communities through military blockades during 1992-93, and who recently achieved notoriety in her role as a 'human shield' during the invasion of Iraq. Specifically, Gillespie spoke of BBC reports that showed Iraqi citizens pulling down a statue of Saddam Hussein on April 9. She said that on that date, and for days beforehand, the US military was forcing people to stay indoors; she witnessed the destruction of the statue, and suggested that US personnel were directing a small group of people to do so. She also contradicted BBC reports that "ten thousand people" celebrated the demise of Saddam Hussein; because of the constant curfew, she claims this was impossible, and quoted her driver, who said that only "ten or twenty" people were celebrating publicly at that time.

I then attended a workshop entitled Aboriginal Heritage Protection, where Wiradjuri elder Neville "Chappy" Williams and Binnie O'Dwyer of the Indigenous Justice Advocacy Network appealed for students' assistance in fighting the Canadian company Barracks Gold, which has been granted the rights to mine for gold at Lake Cowal, using cyanide. The environmental consequences of such mining are well-documented worldwide; Bob Carr is undeterred, promising a "jobs bonanza" for the community. And this is not to mention the rights of the Wiradjuri nation, who appear to have none. For example, Wiradjuri artifacts (called "relics" under the pre-Mabo NSW legislation) can be destroyed with a permit granted by the relevant authority

– a little research has uncovered that this authority appears never to have rejected an application for a permit to destroy. Chappy repeatedly called the project a "disaster waiting to happen" and implored us to understand that Lake Cowal is the basis for Wiradjuri belief structures. Monday morning began with a 10.30am plenary entitled The Suspect Population: Racism and the Punishment Industry. Chris Cunneen, the director of the Institute of Criminology at the University of Sydney, spoke in detail about the effects of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (reported in 1991) and the HREOC inquiry into the Stolen Generations for Aboriginal peoples. No police officer or guard was ever charged with any crime following the Royal Commission's findings, although one positive result has been the number of successful civil proceedings against custodial authorities. The Commission's 339 recommendations have been supported in principle by state and federal governments, but have not, in the majority of cases, been implemented.

For me, the opportunity to hear and meet both Zachary Steel and Aamer Sultan in the next workshop (Who's going to protect us from the Border Protectors?) was a major highlight. Both Steel, a clinical psychologist, and Aamer, an Iraqi doctor who was imprisoned in Villawood and is now on a TPV, have conducted studies into the effects of detention on people seeking asylum. Factors affecting and compounding the natural trauma suffered by refugees include: the residency determination process, where insensitive DIMIA officers force many applicants to tell their horrific stories (often of rape and murder) for the first time; health and welfare problems associated with detention and TPV status; continuing threats to family and friends at home; and the usual adaptation difficulties suffered by every immigrant.

Aamer, who during his time in Villawood kept highly detailed records of the mental health of long-term fellow detainees, has uncovered Immigration Detention Stress Syndrome (IDSS), a condition that occurs in 100 per cent of detainees. He spoke of the AMA's ethical

guidelines for psychologists working in detention centres which are often ignored by those psychologists, and also of the Refugee Review Tribunal, which is supposed to be independent but which is actually staffed by officers on three-year Ministerial contracts.

Among the law students present, there was also some lengthy discussion about progressive course content, which has all but disappeared from many campuses. For example, a Macquarie law student told of her experiences in Property and Corporate Law, where much time was spent discussing Aboriginal laws and the effects of current statutes on minority groups – a very different focus than the same subjects at the University of Adelaide, where Mabo goes unmentioned in Property Law and Corporate Law consists of reading through

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UTS Community Law and Legal Research Centre, lamented the gaping lack of 'real-world' law content in law schools, including courses teaching about summary offences, rental disputes, immigration, wills, and debt and credit problems for low income-earners.

Overall, the Progressive Lawyers & Students Network conference was exceptionally run on a tight budget (registration was a \$5 donation), and was enormously encouraging and motivational, particularly for students who lament the apparent conservatism of many academics, courses and students. Despite the late date, a small group of students at Adelaide and Flinders is committed to setting up a South Australian PLSN, so keep an eye out for posters on campus!

**Russell Marks**

# letters



## What exactly is racism anyway?

Dear Editors,

Congratulations Darren, great article. As an aboriginal person, through my schooling years I have come across racism. If you were to look at me, you wouldn't even think I was a "nunga". Maybe it was the fact that I didn't shy away from telling people I was aboriginal. I have spoken to a few people about it, and they refused to tell people what they were. It is something I am very proud of. To those people who think that we are getting a free education, you are wrong. We still have to pay HECs, union fees, we are like everyone else. I believe these sort of people won't ever change. Look at our Prime Minister for instance. He is using some of the ideologies of the White Australia Policy, and the fact that he doesn't say sorry doesn't worry me too much, but he should acknowledge the atrocity that happened in the past. He just brushes past it when the subject comes up. I'll leave you with a former Prime Minister's speech that I have only learnt about recently.

JB

*Eds note: Please turn to page 22 for a full copy of Paul Keating's Reconciliation speech*

## Enviro-pokies (?)

Dear *On Dit*,

I wish to thank everyone who supported the Yes Pokies campaign in the 2003 Student Elections. The provision of gambling facilities on campus is a major issue for students. I will be calling for a National Day of Action so that students around the country can let everyone in our community know how passionate we are to see facilities provided. Whilst not elected to any major positions this time around, I will use those committees I have been elected to, to bring the campaign up a gear. From the SAUA's Environment Standing Committee, I will call for the world's first Solar Powered Pokie Machines on campus. How could anyone say no to that? I urge all students to contact their student reps and members of parliament to make sure we keep the Yes Pokies fight going.

Contact me if you are interested in helping the Yes Pokies Party and/or in organising a National Day of Action.

**Jimmy Kiploks**  
Yes Pokies Party

N.B. The Yes Pokies Party promotes responsible gambling. Anyone with a problem is urged to seek assistance from the Gambling Help Line - 1800 060 757.

## Pollies and promises

Dear Eds,

Now that the annual student elections are over (or as some would say, the annual student "election-turn-farce") it's time for those that stood and made promises, if they did at all, to deliver and live up to the expectations as elected so-called student leaders.

Many ran around during that election week parroting fine-tuned rehearsed lines that made themselves look like experts on the issues, but the ultimate test is what they will deliver. Getting elected is the easy part, especially given all that happened behind the scenes as the factions jostled to secure power (some of you might be thinking what I'm exactly talking about, and this raises an entirely separate point which I'll be happy to write about in another letter).

To all students and politicians - think carefully about what was promised in that week. There is a notion called "electoral accountability", that is, delivering on promises. Most student politicians, and politicians generally, don't think that this is important. These types instead treat the whole thing as one huge game - the Students' Association and the Union as an exclusive plaything, where those elected immerse themselves in pretentious self-indulgence. But there are some who think that how a student's three-hundred-odd-dollar student services fee is spent should be subject to scrutiny, delivering quality services and proper representation that students actually want. These people nominated in elections because they were and are genuine in wanting to do something about the issues.

This year, we've seen a very small handful of the latter who have worked tirelessly throughout - those who were and still are dedicated and passionate about the issues, and do not see (student) politics as something that can provide them with a job, title and a student-funded honorarium. People who think that the electoral year does not end after elections, but that campaigns are still worthwhile running as the year winds down since the issues are important. People who show such enthusiasm in their job even before their term officially commences. People who think that it's important to be true to their word deliver on their promises, and be proud enough to articulate what they really stand for. People who take this seriously - not as one huge game where it's acceptable to make mistakes with student's money - and time, both in election week and throughout the year.

I've been elected as a NUS delegate for Adelaide, and it's my intention to deliver on what I promised. NUS can no longer be another "exclusive plaything" for student politicians. It's supposed to be the representative of all students, and thus every student should have a chance to have an input.

NUS delegates aren't supposed to go to Ballarat for a free holiday, unlike what many students and student politicians elected and otherwise, think. I want to take this seriously.

As the main decision-making event of NUS fast approaches - the NUS National Conference - I want to know what general students think. What do you want your national organisation to be? What policies do you think it should present? What do you want it to do? What do you think about the National Union's activities this year, or perhaps lack thereof?

This was a simple promise amongst many other things I said, but is equally important. I welcome all students emailing me or writing to *On Dit* with their ideas for or comments about NUS, because for far too long, NUS delegates generally have been unapproachable and unaccountable. Students have not been able to see what they've done, if anything at all.

Which other elected "representatives" can deliver on their promises? Or do they insist that NUS, the Union and the Students Association are things where incompetency, mistakes and unaccountability can be tolerated? Keep in mind - for every elected representative, there are countless many others who could be doing a comparable if not much better job, because they take things seriously.

Min Guo

## The facts are as follows...

Dear Editors,

The proposed higher education reforms are very worrisome; this I do not dispute, however the protest against the reforms should be careful not to unnecessarily denigrate the reputation of international students in its pursuit of affordable, equitable education. A number of the articles you have featured on the reforms imply that international students pay their way into universities rather than gaining entrance through academic merit, and take the place of local HECS students. This is neither true nor fair. While the TER required for international students to gain entrance to this University are often lower than those needed for entrance to the same courses with HECS places, it is important to keep a few points in mind. Firstly, the academic level that international students required to gain entrance to university is not low. The students must have a good level of academic English proficiency (an overall average IELTS score of 6 or above, which is no easy feat when English is your second language) and a TER based on what is considered necessary to be successful in a particular course. For example for a Bachelor of Law a TER of 98 is required, while for a Bachelor of Arts 71 is needed. Secondly, the increasingly high TER that local students require for some courses are a result of increasing competition to gain dwindling HECS places; it is not entrance into courses that students are competing for per se, but subsidised places in these courses. Resources and policy at the level of the government, universities and departments determine the number of these places and therefore the entry level. In contrast, international students are not competing for limited places because they are above quota as they pay full fees, but they still meet an academic standard to gain admission. Moreover, an Auditor General's 2002 report of the Victorian Universities found that international students are not directly displacing HECS funded students and that admission standards have not dropped. There is no evidence to suggest that the situation at the University of Adelaide is any different. Admittedly the proposed reforms do not bode well for HECS-funded students and this, combined with the steep competition for limited HECS places and the turn towards full fee-paying domestic students, is of concern, but the campaign against this need not extend to inferring that international students are unworthy of their places by making unfounded claims that they are admitted based on their ability to pay rather than on academic merit. International students are the target of a great deal of hyperbolised derogatory media and sweeping generalisations; we should be careful not to exacerbate this trend.

**Belinda St. John-Ives**  
Research Officer OSA

## Praise for 'feral lefties'

Dear Eds,

Would you please extend my thanks to Dan J for his article 'Feral lefties', published in this weeks edition (#16) of On Dit. I completely agree with his opinion of the demonstration 'organised' on the August 28. I am sure that there were some students there with intelligent arguments against the Government's attempts at screwing over those who aspire to higher education but were born without the necessary silver plated cutlery in their mouths. However, I was disappointed and frankly embarrassed at the scenes caused by some of the more aggressive participants.

I have explained more times than I wish to count that some of us do have educations worth fighting for, educations which allow us to come up with arguments that carry more weight than a gob of saliva released while screaming obscenities. However, I am tired and stressed with the advent of final exams and have given up on defending my fellow students, even though I know most of them are worth the effort. Now I simply don't admit to being a Uni student, unless absolutely necessary and yet it was only a few short years ago that I was proud to say I was going to be attending Adelaide.

The education reforms are a tragedy for everyone concerned and something needs to be done to make the general public aware of this (some of Dan's suggestions are impressive and should be seriously considered) but the way to do this is by using the educations that we hold so dear to formulate legitimate and compelling arguments, thereby gaining the support of non-maniac students (ie. those without the rolling eyes, frothing mouths and sporadic Tourette's syndrome) and the general public watching.

Thanks

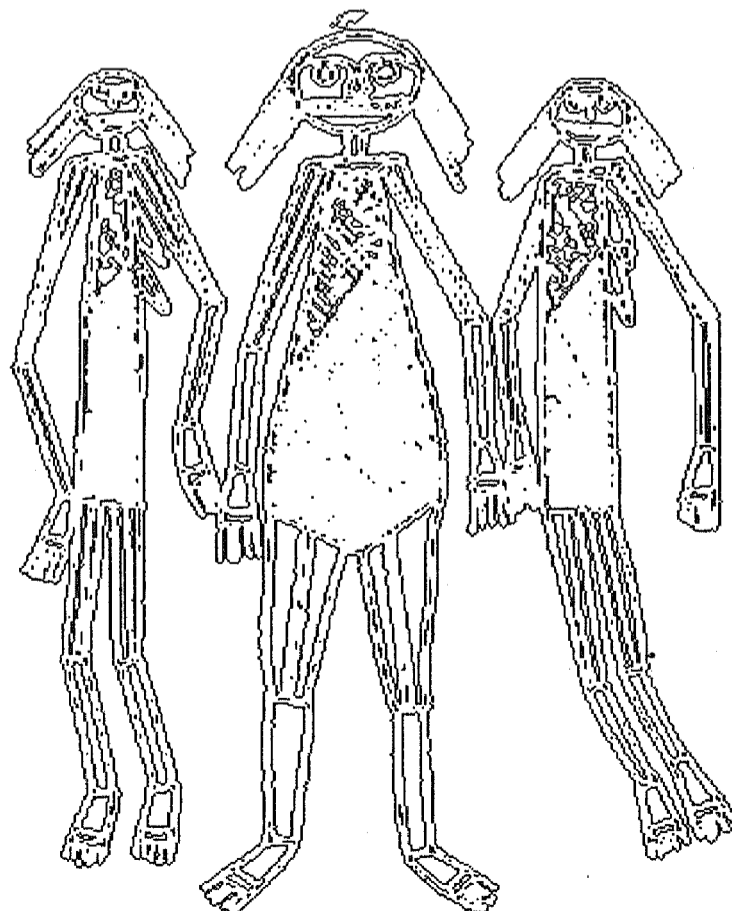
E.R.

## Cross examination

Dear Editor,

Some enlightenment concerning the "facts of the case" regarding Sir Anthony Mason's reported justification of the sentence handed down in the Paul Nemer shooting are in order. The judge is quoted by Current Affairs reporter Rosie Sidey as stating "... the public don't know all the details and evidence before the sentencing judge". In most cases the judge doesn't know all of the details or evidence either. For the non-silvertail defendant, the process works like this: once arrested, the police and public prosecutor bring as many charges as possible against their victim. It doesn't really matter whether these are justified, unjustified or totally fabricated, because their purpose is to see the defendant imprisoned (called "remand") without bothering about the inconvenience of a trial, by convincing a friendly magistrate that some modern day thumbscrews are in order. This is how it's done: once banged up, the defendant will only have the skimpiest possible legal services provided through legal aid, and the prosecution can decide what to do next, at their leisure. At this stage, the sole object of the prosecution is to ensure that bail is denied, little evidence will be offered, and it doesn't need to be since the charges brought so far can later be dropped once they've served their purpose. The defendant is unable to organise their side of things, due to their imprisonment, which means things like sharing a phone with 30 other prisoners, and having very limited access to their legal aid solicitor. Months, or years can drag by while the defendant's life is effectively destroyed, as they inevitably lose their job, belongings, home, and social connections. The wheels grind exceedingly slowly, everyone takes their time, our "Rolls-Royce" (for whom?) legal process remorselessly wears down the defendant (who may well be entirely innocent), and eventually the topic of plea bargaining will arise. I don't know where the Sir Anthonys of this world are while this happens, probably drinking wine in the Barossa. Your legal aid solicitor will put it to you something like this: "now you want to get on with your life, don't you, the prosecutor will drop the charges they never could substantiate anyway, you can plead guilty to some lesser ones, and the police won't oppose a suspended sentence, since you've already served your time, and we can all go home". Justice? Hardly, but who cares, as long as the rich people can explore every mitigating factor, every extenuating circumstance, every nuance of legal argument in their favour, in minute detail, with the help of the likes of "the brilliant" Lindy Powell, Q.C. There's no appeal for the victim of the remand system, no compensation, and you can't get back the time you've lost. You've pleaded guilty to something or other, so you're stuck with that, and a criminal record. No one will ever believe you now, anyway. I can't see that things have really changed since the days of the rack. What I can't understand is that people think there's something wrong with the system when things like Paul Nemer happen. All they do is prove that the system is working just fine, exactly the way it's supposed to.

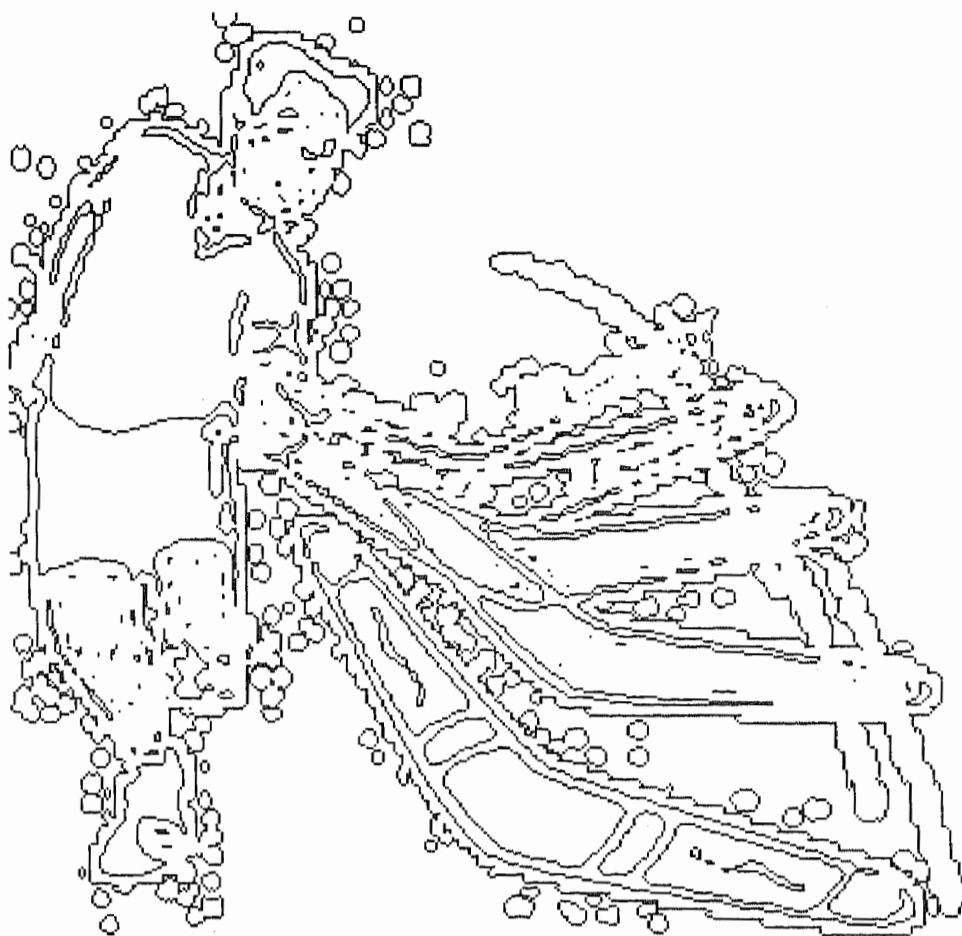
Anonymous



## Letter of the week

The winner of the coveted *On Dit* letters page prize goes to Vice Chancellor James McWha. Despite the fact that the VC and his staffers have been quite uncooperative in their dealings with *On Dit* this year, we have decided to overlook this in the interest of fairness. Congratulations! You have won a free meal and beer courtesy of the London Tavern. Please to come down to the basement of the George Murray Building to collect your prize (except Mondays, that's the day we sleep).

Right.  
Why aren't you lazy swines claiming your prizes?  
Complain when *On Dit* doesn't have prizes, complain when it does...  
You know, people used to fight over food vouchers during The Great War.  
Perhaps we'll just continue to stockpile the vouchers and take the subs out for a meal at the end of the year.  
I think they'd like that.



From the desk of James McWha

Letter for *On Dit*  
From VC to all students

To all students of the University of Adelaide.

You are no doubt aware of the Federal Government's proposals for reform of the Higher Education Sector. Last week, the Senate Employment Workplace Relations and Education References Committee visited the North Terrace Campus as part of its Inquiry into the Higher Education Funding and Regulatory legislation. I was provided with an opportunity to address the inquiry and reiterated the University's position in respect of the proposed legislation, indicating that:

- \*The University believes that adequate levels of public funding to enable qualified Australians to access Higher Education are not provided by the package.
- \*The University is concerned that equity issues are not adequately addressed by the package.
- \*The University recognises the excellent services and representation provided by student organisations and supports compulsory membership of the Adelaide University Union for all students.
- \*The University is concerned that the proposals relating to workplace relations are ideologically driven rather than being linked to educational outcomes.
- \*The University is very concerned at the proposal to remove overload places from the system, which would result in a loss of 1100 places at the University of Adelaide.
- \*The University is also very concerned at the model proposed for the allocation of new HECS places, which is unlikely to result in many places being allocated to the University of Adelaide or indeed to the State of South Australia.

Last Wednesday, the University, together with the Students' Association of the University of Adelaide and the Adelaide University Union sent out a joint media release. In that release, I indicated that, "We need not just to maintain the current level of access for South Australians to a University of Adelaide education, but also to improve the opportunities. We offer a high-quality education that is informed by cutting-edge research, and we believe the government has a responsibility to ensure that all Australians with demonstrated ability will be able to gain access to it."

I hope that you will inform yourselves about the proposed reforms, which will not only affect current students but also prospective students of the University of Adelaide.

Yours sincerely,  
**Professor James A. McWha**  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Adelaide



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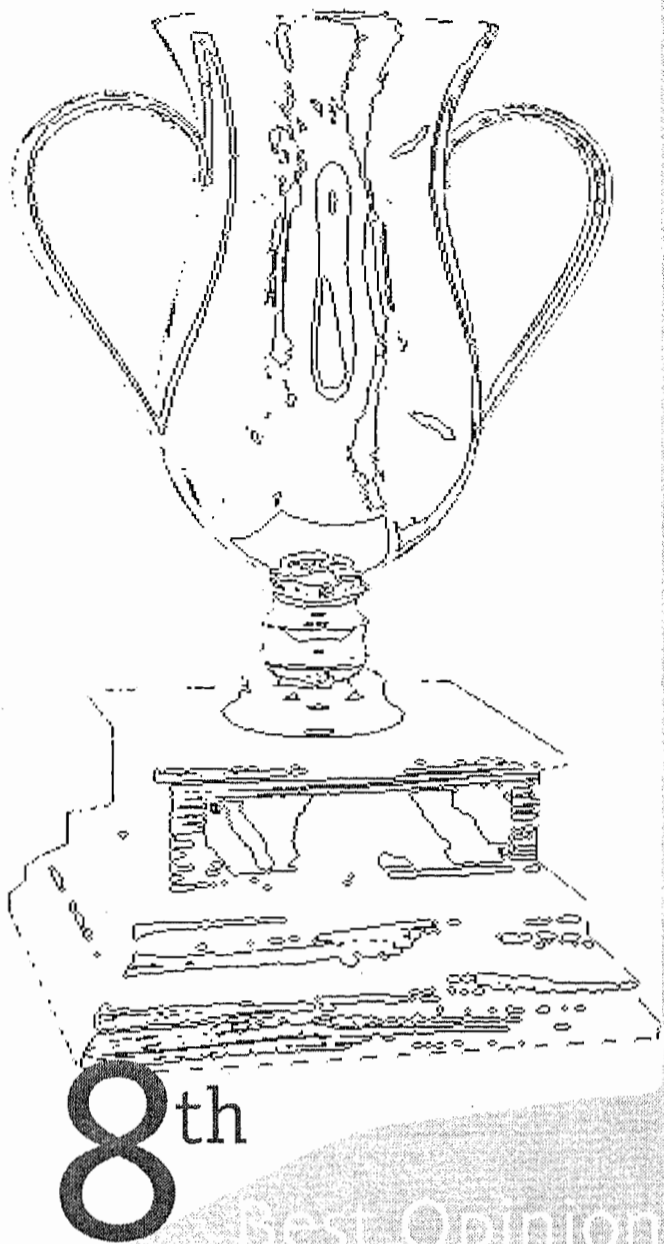
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# 8th

## Best Opinion Article of the Year

I've recently embarked on a project to purchase the Top 10 Albums of All Time, a stunt designed to pump up the street cred of my CD collection. Music being the subjective pleasure that it is, the project is controversial from the very outset. The obvious question that arises is, 'Who gets to decide what is the best music of all time?'

The obvious answer is *Rolling Stone* magazine, the recognised, if self appointed, adjudicator of all time musical greatness. Adopting their selections is not only uncreative, but would lead to buying a bunch of similar recordings. The top 10 from a greatest 100 albums list from 1997 features three albums from the Stones, two from the Beatles and Dylan and not much room left to squeeze in the Beach Boys, Van Morrison and Marvin Gaye. It makes perfect sense that the best artists are capable of claiming multiple positions in a top 10, but it's not quite the variety I was hoping for.

Popularity and general appreciation must be strong criteria for greatness, hence the sales of an album might be a good place to look for a top ten. Having said this, sales figures do not necessarily equate to good music. Remember the Australian Recording Industry Awards a couple of years ago when Scandal'us picked up the best selling single of the year then promptly disappeared forever from the hearts and radios of the Australian people. A look at the US top selling list, however, can do a lot to restore faith in the tastes of the masses. Greatest hits albums and *Thriller* aside, the Beatles, Fleetwood Mac, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin and even AC/DC all stake a claim to the top 10. Of course there are a couple of requisite shockers, and I don't think I'll be in a great rush to get Shania Twain's *Come on Over*, or *The Bodyguard* Soundtrack for that matter.

There are a great many other Top 100 lists out there and surprisingly little consensus among the experts. The Beatles and Bob Dylan are almost universally represented, but not always with the same efforts. If I had paid more attention in Statistics

classes, I might be able to conduct some kind of statistical survey of all of them and get some sort of mathematical musical truth. As it stands, I've looked at a few lists, asked some friends and bought a copy of Dylan's *Blonde on Blonde*, and that's as far as my Top Ten project has progressed. It was always going to be a difficult and debatable task and makes for good banter at the pub any any rate.

People really dig hierarchies and putting things in order, and this digging extends to matters even more subjective than music. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie can recline luxuriously in the knowledge that they are firmly entrenched in the Top Ten Sexiest People in the World lists. A men's magazine went as far as rating the top 200 sexy ladies, though you have to wonder how they go about distinguishing numbers 186 and 187. There are top ten lists that rank style, fashion, wealth and even concepts as nebulous as funniness and intrigue.

It might be possible to construct a top ten of any imaginable category. My school English teacher taught that natural hierarchies exist in the world, and just as lions are the king of the animals, oaks are the king of trees, Rolls Royce is the king of cars and England is the king of countries. People were able to reach a consensus on the rightful order of things because such hierarchies were universal and existed in nature. I think that such an ambitious analysis may be pushing the concept too far. Cultural influences on hierarchies can't be understated, as evidenced by the fact that the order and importance of various hierarchies change from time to time. It would also be interesting to investigate whether the fascination with rank and order is peculiar to competitive and aesthetic cultures such as our own.

In this week's Other Ideas column people have been given free reign to put together Top 5 and 10 lists of anything they like. Enjoy.

Steven Robert

### Other Ideas

6 fonts that Bonnie insists should be outlawed:

1. **Vademeum**
2. **Sand**
3. **ohachio**
4. **HIRASH**
5. **Rantom Note**
6. **Coolvetica**

Four noises that Stanley never wants to hear during coitus:

1. Buurrlap.
2. Ppffftladle.
3. Spplilch.
4. Hoooeck ... thhpth.

Jimmy Trash's Top Five Orgasms

Eight things that get Gemma's goat, in no particular order:

1. Cheesy bogan trance (eg anything by Scooter)
2. The smell of bubblegum
3. Tacky misspellings of names (eg Krystle, Bilynda)
4. False nails, especially those of an impractical length and gaudily decorated
5. The Black Eyed Peas' latest song, 'Where is the Love'
6. Tahini
7. Celebrities who need to be seen partaking in some kind of vice while on stage at awards ceremonies, etc (eg chewing gum, smoking)
8. Highly posed group photos of all-male bands

- 1) February 1998. A late bloomer, this was my first-ever solo 'manual' orgasm (as opposed to waking in a cold sticky mess). Remains unparalleled in both relief and the sheer quantity. I didn't even have enough time to think of a fantasy.
- 2) January 2001. First ever sixty-niner. 'Nuff said.
- 3) April 2000. My girlfriend at the time had secretly been studying oral Karma Sutra techniques. A wonderful surprise. Her parents didn't let her close the door after that night.
- 4) March 2001. Handjob received in the middle of Woodhouse forest whilst on year twelve retreat. Beautifully serene.
- 5) April - June 2003. Three months of desperate, intense break-up sex. Would be number one if it wasn't for the cum-guilt.

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THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

# What's the story with the Environment Department?

There are some fresh new faces in the SAUA Environment Office. As the incoming Environment Officer, I'd like to update people in regards to current environmental issues, future directions for the SAUA Environment Department, and ATSI/Environment Week.

The major Environmental issue currently running in South Australia is the proposed dumping of Nuclear Waste in outback South Australia. It has been proposed by the Federal Government, Peter McGauran being the relevant Minister, that 'low-level' waste should be dumped in the 'Prohibited Area' north-west of Woomera. This contradicts the conventional policy of Nuclear Waste storage in Australia, whereby the waste is stored in the state within which it was expended. The creation of a new site in South Australia would in turn lead to SA inheriting a site that contains materials detrimental to the surrounding environment, regardless of the non-existence of a capital city within 500kms, and would remain for approximately 25,000 years. The out-of-sight out-of-mind solutions that the current Federal Government is attempting to instil permanently within the Australian psyche have failed to go unnoticed in the deserts of Woomera previously. They must fail again.

The Australian Radiation Protection

and Nuclear Safety Protection Agency, (ARPANSA) a Federal Government Agency is currently seeking submissions regarding the 'license process' for the dump. You have until November 8<sup>th</sup> to submit. Simply go to [www.arpansa.gov.au](http://www.arpansa.gov.au). On November 6<sup>th</sup> there will be a Federal Court hearing, most probably in Adelaide regarding this issue, an ideal time to protest in some shape or form. In mid-December ARPANSA may hold a public meeting in Adelaide regarding the proposal. This sort of move is rarely made by Federal Government agencies and would be an ideal opportunity to have our voices heard.

On campus level the Environment Committee and myself will be upholding our policy statements made at the recent election to improve bike facilities here on campus. The Environment Office has heard the calls for a new bike shed and realises action is urgently needed to create a campus that is suitable for bikes and one that encourages bike use to and from campus. The current situation in regards to resources for bike user is not good enough. University administrators have promised that if the students can cough up the labour costs for a new shed, the Uni will pay for materials. I will be consulting with the relevant administrators in the near future. Any

questions or queries regarding this issue email [environment@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:environment@adelaide.edu.au) or come into the SAUA office in the north-western corner of the cloisters. (We also have spare parts, tubes etc. so come in if you have bike troubles at Uni.)

Another issue that will be addressed is the issue of recycling on campus. It is my aim to construct a recycling program (for bottles and cans) that operates throughout the entire campus as opposed to three bins existing outside the Mayo and the Napier building. Adelaide University has failed to commit to a workable recycling program operating on campus grounds to date. (Last I heard was boy scouts have the emptying duties for the recycling-bins.) I will be discussing the issue of recycling in the days and weeks to come with the committee and relevant sections of the University.

This week is ATSI/ENVIRONMENT week. The ATSI side of things looks very promising and Darren (ATSI Officer) has been working hard to ensure the week is enjoyable for all. The Environment side of things....as you may have heard Paul Grillo resigned as Environment Officer about a fortnight ago. He's a nice guy but had sweet nothing organised for Environment Week. The Environment Committee met for the first time on Monday to ensure the year doesn't end

without a show for Environment on the lawns. (The infamous Pokies man Jimmy Kiploks who was elected to the committee didn't show but rumour has it he was busy playing the slots in a shitty pub somewhere). Things look very promising even without an official Environment Officer. I'll be playing a caretaker role until December when the proper transition takes place and the committee are all keen and eager to contribute. Anyway, myself and members of the committee will be floating around the Barr Smith lawns next week, with Darren who has organised ATSI week alone (excellent effort.) There will be organisations such as Wilderness, and the Conservation Society and hopefully Greenpeace. There will also be petitions and questionnaires relating to Environment issues. So sign away or answer if you get the chance. Don't hesitate to contact the Environment Office with any queries, information, or ideas as we would welcome it wholeheartedly. Email [environment@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:environment@adelaide.edu.au) or come into the SAUA office.

**Stephen Kellett**

SAUA Environment Officer Elect

## Three-mine policy meltdown

The three-mine policy was a policy of the Labor government between 1983-1996, proposing the three mines Ranger, Nabralek and Olympic Dam. Nabralek became rundown after ten years, and when it was closed the government refused to implement any new mines, and as such the three-mine policy became a two-mine policy. Now if Jabiluka is allowed to be opened, it will be the fourth Uranium mine in Australia.

Uranium is not just a health hazard for workers in the area but for any inhabitants of the planet and its future generations. The radiation emits high-speed particles and electromagnetic waves which damage living tissue and break biochemical bonds. It is used in making radioactive weapons, like the Tomahawk bomb, which when released forms uranium oxide particles, which can be wind borne for several hundred miles, and will not decay. Having one uranium particle in your lungs is like having an x-ray every hour for the rest of your life. The damage done is irreversible; this applies to those using the weapons and those the weapons are being used on.

The land that contains both Jabiluka and Ranger belongs to the Mirrar Gendi-Jen-Mi people. They are a local descent group who have spiritual connections to sites on the land, placing the group

under primary spiritual responsibility for the sacred sites. The Mirrar people are opposed to any mining on their land, but, if it is THEIR land, what right do the big mining companies have to destroy it? Don't the Mirrar people have a say to what goes on in their backyard? I certainly think they do.

If Jabiluka is opened it will produce 42.95 million tonnes of radioactive waste, and there will be nowhere to put it, so the mining companies will dump it in the ground, contaminating the soil forever. Millions of litres of sulphuric acid will have to be pumped into the ground to remove the uranium from Beverly. This will cause permanent ground water contamination.

Now imagine all of this damage multiplied by 22. Yes, 22, that's how many proposed mines there are. None are active yet, but if the mining proposals are approved the mines will be opened. The environmental damage will be monumental and human health will be 22 more times at risk than it already is. So I ask you, who the hell would want this sort of thing in our backyard? I definitely don't want my family and I to live in a toxic country just because I didn't do anything about it.

Our predecessors should have learnt the lessons of the 1950's, when they

let the British government conduct disgustingly inhumane experiments with nuclear weapons. These experiments had grossly unfair consequences - consequences we're still feeling the effects of 53 years on.

If we are to continue to live in a healthy environment we have to begin by saying no to practises such as uranium mining, which doesn't just effect us and our current environment, but our future generations as well. I would like to be able to walk into my backyard, Australia, and feel safe, knowing that the air that I breathe and the ground that I walk on wont kill me. I would like to know that our wildlife is not extinct because of the atrocious practices it has been exposed to. But mostly I would like to know that my backyard, this beautiful country, will remain beautiful for future generations, this is my wish.

Unknown to most people there are already more than 50 million tonnes of radioactive waste lying at several sites around Australia.

Mining companies have neither the intention nor the ability to safeguard this waste for the next quarter of a million years, something to tell your grandchildren to look forward to...

**Milijana Stojadinovic**



# Drugs, addiction and ignorance

## A user's perspective

Society has a tendency to limit our perception of addiction by solely confining the issue within illicit substance use. However, it seems more appropriate to approach addiction as being inherent within humans and toward a variety of media, digestible or not. It could be seen, and I believe has been scientifically studied, that junk foods have the potential to be addictive for individuals and would not be without their consequences. I go as far as saying that television has created many an addict, perhaps more commonly known as the couch potato, and has consequences perhaps not as immediate or obvious as those that drug users may incur.

There will always be junk food and television because of the demand for them. There will always be a demand for drugs and alcohol and, therefore, there will always be a supply. A person could go through a period of recreational drug use, 'grow out' of it and come away without problems to their mental and physical health, whereas it is the opinion of many that every drug user becomes adversely affected by their use.

Russell Marks' article 'Addiction in Australia' highlights the ignorance of politicians and Government bodies when dealing with all aspects of drug use. The 'harm prevention' stance could only be successful if drugs were never used by anyone. Conflict of interest arises when it is quite obvious that the use of substances is on the rise and beginning to occur at earlier ages. The rise in drug use is particularly evident with amphetamines, especially ecstasy, a drug that carries with it a plethora of myths substantiated by Government propaganda. This is one drug where

'harm minimisation' practices are as essential as those considered for intravenous drug users. Such practices carry with them the possibility of reducing dangers of drugs to those only associated with, often unknown and unsubstantiated, long-term effects as a result of prolonged above-moderate drug use.

The global practice of needle exchange and safe-injecting rooms has been shown to greatly reduce the contraction of diseases and number of overdoses in the places they have been implemented. Whether these institutions exist or not, an addict will always find a way to get their fix, but with these in place, we can ensure the use of sterile equipment, sterile water and filters. Without needle exchange, and as an ex-user of intravenous meth-amphetamine, I would have found myself not using alcohol swabs and injecting with the same needles over and over again. I never let myself get to a stage where I needed to prepare a hit without the proper equipment, but there are those who do and tend to have stopped caring about the long-term costs from unsanitary practices.

The most immediate and dire of consequences that can arise from drug use occurs because of a mistake the user makes. The saddening part from this is that the user is generally unaware that their action could be so costly. The mistake a user makes is not using drugs in the first place, but using drugs in ignorance. Ignorance of ecstasy's easily avoidable dangers is perhaps the reason for the few isolated cases where the drug has been blamed for deaths. However, in most of these cases it is possible that true ecstasy, MDMA, was not responsible at all, rather, it being a dangerous

substance in pill form and posing as ecstasy. Ecstasy testing kits are available and give an indication of some important active ingredients a pill may contain and are a must for anyone choosing to use ecstasy. Unfortunately, many users are unaware of the existence of this kit that enable 'harm minimisation' and is indicative of most people not knowing enough when it comes to drug use.

Education, not the propagation of myths, will ensure that those who do choose to use drugs will make informed decisions when approaching use. Without my self-initiated drug education I do not believe I could have recognised the signs that prompted me to make the choice of ending my intravenous meth-amphetamine use before it became too late and too hard to quit. While my experiences lean toward the extreme ends of drug use, it is clear to me that more people are taking advantage of their cognitive liberty and contributing to the rapidly growing trend of recreational substance use. We can only begin to overcome problems associated with uneducated drug use by promoting a continued development of self-awareness that begins in school, while at the same time creating extensive knowledge on drugs, how they work and how they may appear in the unregulated and unpredictable drug trade.

### Anonymous

*Russell Marks' article, 'Addiction in Australia' (On Dit 71.16), has caused some splendid debate. See page 20 for another perspective.*

# THE MASSES ARE ON THE BALL

As the siren sounds to end another season of football, the faithful who live and breathe the game hang up their tribal colours and bid their heroes goodbye. No longer Tigers or Eagles, they are now just ordinary men and women seeking some lesser pastime to fill the void.

The enlightened vanguard of Australian culture must quietly sigh with relief that the circus of barbarians has left town. "If only", some of them wistfully lament, "Australians were so passionate about politics, or wine, or opera."

Others worry that addiction to sport has dulled the masses to the events and decisions which really shape our lives. Year after year, they miss the point entirely. For millions of Australians football is more than a game. Its appeal is not as some substitute for primitive violence, but as a vehicle for our community spirit. Nowhere else in public life are the ideals of Australian tradition on show so nakedly.

Sometimes this tradition is ugly or exclusive. Men who deviate from its stilted athletic stereotype are harassed as poofs or wimps. Women tread the field only to carry drinks for half time, never to taste glory. But football also lets us glimpse a world where success rests on the humble principles of hard work, fair play, and solidarity.

From these principles spring our hopes and dreams for Australian society. Walk into any school, workplace, or chamber of parliament and witness the prejudice and disadvantage which mar the world at large. Too often

what counts is where you come from and how much money you have. Yet walk into any football ground on

Saturday afternoon and watch these barriers melt away. The sons of dusty Aboriginal townships play beside old scholars from affluent grammar schools. On the scoreboard, they all start with nil.

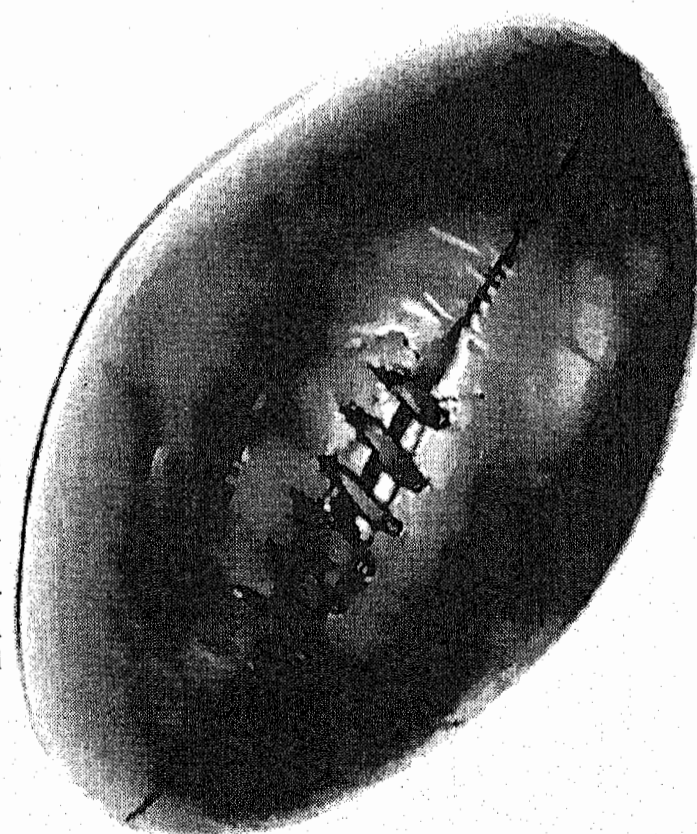
So egalitarian is the institutionalised Australian football culture that Collingwood coach Mick Malthouse once attacked its draft and salary cap, which favour the weakest clubs, as "socialist communism".

The game also rewards the virtues we admire in everyday life. Compare the courage and loyalty nurtured by football to the dog-eat-dog world of politics.

The footballer wins his highest honour not for his own sake, but for his team and his supporters. His most shameful crime is to "play the man" rather than the ball. In politics, playing the man is the shortest road to victory.

It is no surprise that most of us prefer to follow the football. Those who can enjoy only wine and opera deprive themselves of this rare window on to the shared spirit, aspirations, and pride of our community.

Rowan Nicholson

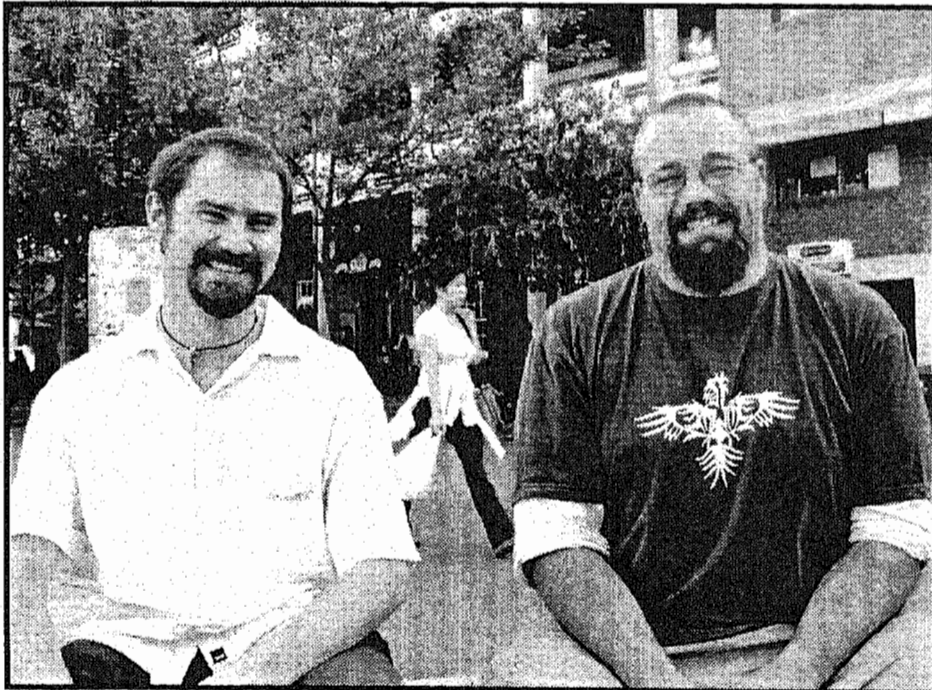


## Questions:

1. How much importance, if any, do you place on Reconciliation?
2. What ideas do you have about improving Indigenous/non-Indigenous relations?
3. What should people be doing to improve the state of our environment and prepare for the future?
4. When the environment finally disintegrates and becomes uninhabitable, who do you think will be mostly to blame?

## Lisa

1. It is a big issue but with other things happening in people's lives, it's not a priority.
2. For non-Indigenous people to have an understanding of Aboriginal people.
3. Small things around the house like recycling and sticking to water restrictions.
4. Everyone should share some responsibility but it would be helpful for governments to make laws to steer people in the right direction.



## Tim and Travis

1.
 

Ti: It's an active ongoing process and I don't think it will ever really be resolved.

Tr: I think if everyone makes an individual effort, you're there.
2.
 

Tr: If people actually get to know other people.

Ti: Yeah. Individual one-on-one contact is the only way; if people meet as individuals.
3.
 

Ti: I think you need to take a big scale approach to maintain biodiversity.

Tr: A shitload! We're both ecologists so we have many ideas. Less talk more action! Small lifestyle choices.
4.
 

Ti: I came here from Sydney and I was amazed that there had never been water restrictions.

Tr: We all put demands on the environment by being here, so everybody has to show some sort of responsibility.



## Gillian

1. A great deal. I think it's really important. It's hard to know how to do it though. I think it's absolutely scandalous how our leaders are dealing with it!
2. I think there should be more interaction; that applies to any situation where there is conflict or misunderstanding.
3. It's just an awareness thing. It really dismays me. All positive practices come from education, and they should be instilled in little kids from school.
4. In a way, governments are responsible for putting in place programs to change our thinking. There's no excuse for mindless consumerism. People are very selfish and short-sighted.

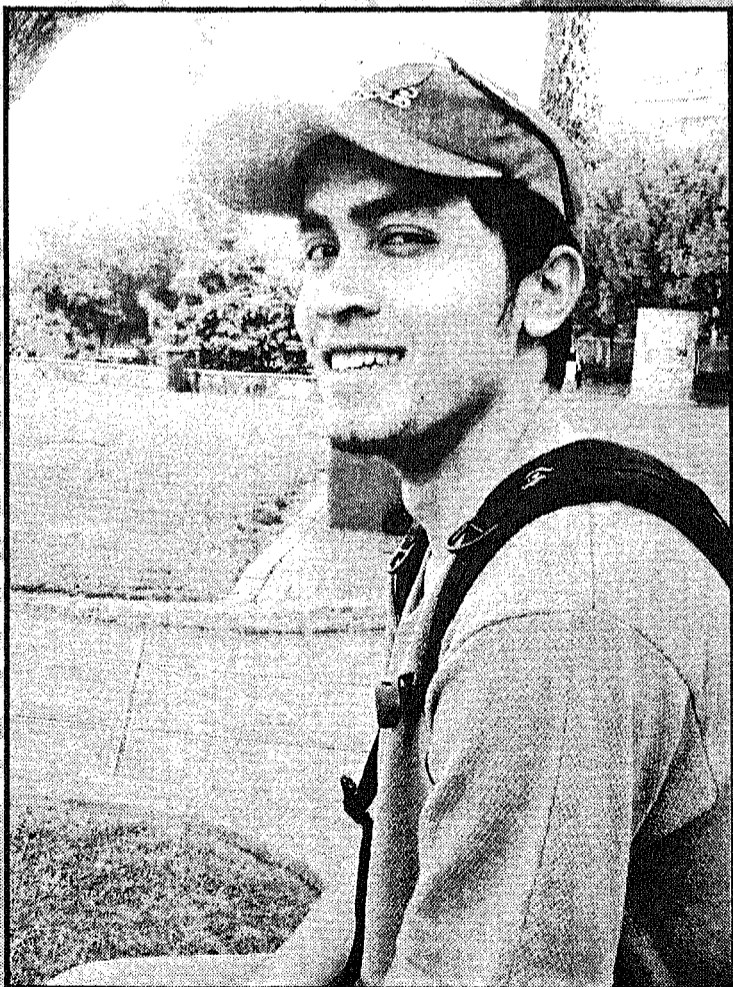
## Gryphon

1. Quite a lot. I grew up in NSW with a high Aboriginal population. I find it quite important because I've got a few Aboriginal friends.
2. The obvious one is to say sorry. Obviously, they haven't said it yet due to various legalities, but it would start the ball rolling.
3. I work in the childcare centre and I think educating the youth about recycling and how the world works is vital.
4. The human race and their misconceptions of the planet.



## Sambo

1. No, it isn't good enough.
2. Most people are set in their ways, and I'm like that. It's all stereotyped and it's sad. I think things should change but it won't happen soon.
3. I just don't think people realise. People don't see the environment that well and they take it for granted. It affects everybody.
4. I have friends who joined the Greens and they do a lot of good stuff. I do my part; I respect the environment.



# Addiction in Australia and the Road to Recovery: purely platitudes and simply spin

Russell Marks' piece on the long awaited report on alcohol and drug addiction is a fair assessment of that useless document, but I believe he was too restrained. That was our money that paid for those three years of fruitless debate, and if past experience is anything to go by, absolutely nothing can be expected to come of it.

An old joke, familiar to anyone who has ever worked for an elected body, states that 'the thing to do when you don't know what to do, is form a committee and commission a report. By the time they've worked out what the report means, someone else will have fixed the problem'. The ironic truth of that old chestnut has been ably demonstrated by the Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs which has laboured for three long years to produce a report, ironically entitled *Road to Recovery*, which not only fails to comprehend the magnitude of the problems under discussion, but also fails the very people whose substance abuse is the reason for the Committee's existence in the first place. Unfortunately, that is all too often the case where the reporting body is composed of politicians rather than persons more intimately involved in the matter being investigated.

The report's few progressive recommendations are not particularly earth shattering, and seem to be more of a curt nod in the direction of the advocates of harm minimisation than serious ideas for dealing with such intractable problems as schoolyard drug dealing or adolescent binge drinking. What is most disappointing is the committee's simplistic recommendation of yet more legislation and even harsher punishment, and their apparent failure to understand the nature of substance addiction and abuse, or the place it holds in the social and economic life of Australia. For God's sake, they don't even police the existing laws, and the various programs based on the ideals of harm minimisation have been hamstrung by under financing, political infighting and a general inability to come to grips with reality.

The statistics on alcohol abuse are indeed appalling, but most reports and analyses fail to discuss the collateral damage to families, the lost work hours (an absolutely staggering figure) the violence and its concomitant costs to the community, or the misery and desperation of the addict. I have no statistics to prove it, but it is my guess that the justice department, the po-

lice and the penal system would be very much less over-worked if it were not for the effects of alcohol abuse. I stress alcohol because that is where my own experience lies; other recreational drugs are no less damaging, but have neither the social approval enjoyed by alcohol, nor its enormous share of the national economy. It is extremely unlikely that any really effective measures will be sought to combat the problems associated with alcohol and tobacco, as the revenue from these products represents a significant proportion of both State and Federal taxation. Like the revenue obtained from poker machines, the Government will maintain that it cannot operate without this enormous sum, but will return only a derisory amount to aid in the prevention of abuse or the rehabilitation of addicts. Laws do exist to curb

the sale of liquor to minors or to the already intoxicated, but few publicans are prepared to police them rigorously. Under-age drinking occurs in many bars (as a lot of under-age drinkers know only too well) and it is an unusual bartender who will openly question a customer's sobriety, despite the notice pinned up behind the bar, stating their legal obligation to refuse service to drunks and minors.

As a society, we attempt to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds — we all drink, many of us to excess, but expect our children to exercise an abstemiousness for which we have given them no role models. As a nation we have very few examples of adult excellence to show our children, so substitute hard-drinking sportsmen, and call them heroes. We make a cult of drinking wine, build a pub (with attached pokies room) on every city corner, and teach our sons that the ability to down eight tinnies in a row is adequate proof of manhood. So deeply engrained is the association of drunkenness with adulthood that the consumption of alcohol is regarded as a rite of passage, enthusiastically endorsed each year by

another crop of students during Schoolies and Orientation Weeks. Alcohol, tobacco and of recent years, illegal drugs, have become inextricably bound into our idea of what constitutes a desirable lifestyle.

I have no solutions to offer, but I can speak from experience — experience common to hundreds of thousands of other Australians. In the past two years I have watched two members of my family drink themselves to death. One has succeeded, the other has only a few months of life left to him, knows why he is dying, and yet cannot stop drinking. In this he is ably assisted by his local pub and his drinking cronies, some of whom are probably also irreversibly damaged by their habit. Despite the public money expended on advertising campaigns and so-called harm minimisation programs, for those of us trying to cope with this problem (and there are thousands) there is little real help available. Most doctors are ill-qualified to deal with addiction, social services do not want to know, ADIS will offer reams of sage advice, but no concrete aid, and worst of all, every avenue is blocked by the politically correct belief the addict must first want to stop drinking before any action can be taken, anything else being interpreted as a violation of his rights. Yeah, right! Eventually one comes to accept that alcohol and drug addiction programs are a business, run for purposes known only to those who run them, and we needy citizens with inconveniently alcoholic relatives, are in their way.

I had naively hoped for great things from the lengthy sitting of the Committee; possibly even some sense of direction, or even purpose, but the *Road to Recovery* is little more than platitudes and spin, prepared for, and by, politicians who like to seem busy even while sitting on their hands. None of the underlying issues of

addiction are realistically addressed, and wherever truly intractable issues are broached, it is only to recommend yet more legislation to deal with them. Government bodies never seem to learn that social problems can't be fixed by enacting laws — people have to want to change a situation before

anything will happen, and our booze-loving society doesn't yet see any reason to change its ways. Unless of course you find your kids taking drugs, or the old man lying in a pool of his own urine, out cold on the kitchen floor.

Elizabeth

**We make a cult of drinking wine, build a pub (with attached pokies room) on every city corner, and teach our sons that the ability to down eight tinnies in a row is adequate proof of manhood.**

**...the *Road to Recovery* is little more than platitudes and spin, prepared for, and by, politicians who like to seem busy even while sitting on their hands.**



# How Green is my tally?

*As a worker and trade unionist, I feel the environmental movement the world over, and especially in the rich countries, has failed to involve working people in the most important movement of our times. Equally, the international trade union movement must break with its narrow economism and accept socially responsible attitudes to the nature of work. The Green Ban movement in Australia in the 1970s successfully formed an historic alliance of middle class and working class people and won many environmental struggles based on the philosophy that work performed should be of a 'socially useful nature'. Fashioning sustainable societies will require a thorough re-examination of the entire production and consumption process. Only if we can involve people of all social class will it be possible to extricate ourselves from rampant and wasteful consumerism, and usher in an ethical revolution which can create social, economic, and political sanity.*

**Jack Munday, 1991**

Munday's remarks raise the question: why have the Greens not capitalised on mainstream acceptance of their basic thesis of environmental crisis? Why have they preferred to remain a minority movement, with the organisational practices of a sect and the political appeal of a temperance movement?

In Germany the pragmatic Joscher Fischer is the respected foreign minister of a great economic power. Why is his conception of Green politics the excep-

tion rather than the rule amongst those who chose to organise around environmental issues?

The problem has been there for all to see for decades. In Tasmania a Labor Green Accord Government was formed in 1989. Many on the Left refused to be positive about this great undertaking, predicting that it would survive only weeks or months. In the event the Field government did not enjoy a full parliamentary term, but it lasted much longer

than the gainsayers had been prepared to realise. It fell essentially for two reasons. The first was the fiscal legacy of the previous Liberal Gray government, which had cooked the books, leaving little financial leeway for policy negotiation between the partners. The second factor was the self-righteousness of the Greens, who insisted on their 'right' to behave like members of an opposition whilst supporting a government in which they had refused office. Clearly generic fears of being co-opted by the system were a factor here. Politics requires a higher order of thinking. In the end the policy of playing the wings off against the centre rebounded, and Labor and the Liberals predictably united to cut the number of seats in the Tasmanian House of Assembly, thus raising the quota necessary to gain a seat in the multi-member constituencies. This reduced the Greens' hold on the balance of power. They cried foul, but no one was listening.

Here in South Australia the Greens also have a credibility problem. Take the

defection of the Labor MP Kris Hanna to the Greens earlier this year. The Greens were enthusiastically blithe about the issues of political propriety involved. Labor protested that Hanna had been elected by Labor voters who wanted a Labor representative, and rightly so. Hanna cited in his defence the usual political practice, howsoever undemocratic. But what really takes the cake is that he did not undertake to reform the practice, by presenting a private member's bill to require members to resign and stand for re-election when changing horses in mid-stream. Until the Greens are less pleased with themselves and less content to see themselves as a party of the righteous who can do no wrong, they will not be credible either as political partners or to the general public. And until that happens they will be no more than a nucleus of fringe elements, dependent in fact on the political regime they criticise, like the Democrats.

**David Faber**

## So you didn't like election week?

The last edition of *On Dit* was littered with pieces by people who weren't impressed by election week. They weren't happy with the way people's personal space was invaded and they way people were intimidated or harassed. Well, to be frank, neither was I. But this leads me to contemplate: what are the alternatives?

I ran in the elections this year and was elected. I see a number of problems and a number of solutions, but I want to know what other students think. One of the options proposed by some disappointed first years was to be promoting yourself throughout the year. However, this isn't possible, it is actually against the election regulations to campaign before election week. But in terms of making a name for yourself, and getting out and visible on campus, I think that's a good idea. Candidates for major positions should have been out on campus all year, active and involved in the area of what they are running for.

Just for the benefit of all those students who didn't run, there are a number of things you should know. All but a few of the people who run in elections get paid, in fact many actually pay out of their own pockets to cover the costs of banners, photocopying, t-shirts and other things. These people donate their money and all of their time and

energy for not just election week, but the weeks before preparing and the year after if they are elected, and for some the year after whether they get elected or not. The large majority of them do this for no other reason than because they CARE. They are interested in how their university operates, how the education system in this country operates and what their student services fees are spent on.

They are out there because they care and because they want to represent you. So whilst I'm not happy with the way election week operates in terms of what candidates have to do, I'm similarly not happy with the way thankfully a small minority of the student populace acted in election week. Candidates, often young and naïve who are out there because they're not happy with the status quo, and want to make a difference (excuse the pun), had to deal with everything ranging from polite "no thanks, I don't care" to "Fuck off" and even being spat on. I know that the majority of students do care and that they're just not happy with the way they get harassed in election week. But we should all be thankful that there are students willing to take themselves out of their comfort zones and go out there and actually try and achieve something; and to stop criticis-

ing for one minute and actually try and change things themselves.

Constructive criticism is something that is healthy, but continual criticism of everything that our student reps do is not. I think it's important that we acknowledge that there are people that work incredibly hard to achieve albeit often very small outcomes, but at least they're achieving something, and not continually criticising or spitting on people who care.

This brings me back to the issue of election week. What do we do? If we don't have students out there trying to make students vote and take an interest, I honestly believe we will have even less students voting because it's just so damn easy not to vote. If next year the candidates just sit back and wait for people to approach them, then the people with the biggest friendship groups are going to win. This is not a popularity contest; it's about the best person for the job, the person whose politics best resemble yours. The person who is going to go out there and fight for what you believe in.

**It seems to me the only alternative is to have compulsory voting. Everyone pays, why shouldn't they vote?**

So while I don't think it's appropriate we maintain the current system, as the disappointed first years are right, it's a 'horrible experience' for all concerned and we can't have a system where only the person with the biggest friendship group gets elected. It seems to me the only alternative is to have compulsory voting. Everyone pays, why shouldn't they vote? I know this is an incredibly unpopular proposition, but what are the alternatives? With compulsory voting, the majority of people are forced to make an informed decision. That way there's no need to have candidates out there harassing students, and there's no need to have candidates getting spat on. I know there will be a few of people who just waste their votes, but that's okay if the majority of people make an informed vote.

What do you think? Write in to *On Dit*, or email me, let's have a debate. If something doesn't change, the disappointed first year will be right, the number of votes cast will continue to decline.

**David Pearson**  
d\_pearson82@hotmail.com

# Keating's Redfern Address

The following is a transcript of the speech given by Paul Keating at Redfern Park in Sydney on December 10, 1992. Penned by Don Watson (Keating's inspired speechwriter from 1992 until his final defeat in 1996), some believe it to be a profound first step towards real reconciliation. Others see it an overly ambitious promise, doomed to be broken before the turn of the millennium.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am very pleased to be here today at the launch of Australia's celebration of the 1993 International Year of the World's Indigenous People.

It will be a year of great significance for Australia. It comes at a time when we have committed ourselves to succeeding in the test which so far we have always failed.

Because, in truth, we cannot confidently say that we have succeeded as we would like to have succeeded if we have not managed to extend opportunity and care, dignity and hope to the indigenous people of Australia - the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people.

This is a fundamental test of our social goals and our national will: our ability to say to ourselves and the rest of the world that Australia is a first rate social democracy, that we are what we should be - truly the land of the fair go and the better chance.

There is no more basic test of how seriously we mean these things.

It is a test of our self-knowledge. Of how well we know the land we live in. How well we know our history. How well we recognise the fact that, complex as our contemporary identity is, it cannot be separated from Aboriginal Australia. How well we know what Aboriginal Australians know about Australia.

Redfern is a good place to contemplate these things. Just a mile or two from the place where the first European settlers landed, in too many ways it tells us that their failure to bring much more than devastation and demoralisation to Aboriginal Australia continues to be our failure.

More I think than most Australians recognise, the plight of Aboriginal Australians affects us all. In Redfern it might be tempting to think that the reality Aboriginal Australians face is somehow contained here, and that the rest of us are insulated from it. But of

course, while all the dilemmas may exist here, they are far from contained. We know the same dilemmas and more are faced all over Australia.

This is perhaps the point of this Year of the World's Indigenous People: to bring the dispossessed out of the shadows, to recognise that they are part of us, and that we cannot give indigenous Australians up without giving up many of our own most deeply held values, much of our own identity - and our own humanity.

Nowhere in the world, I would venture, is the message more stark than in Australia.

We simply cannot sweep injustice aside. Even if our own conscience allowed us to, I am sure, that in due course, the world and the people of our region would not. There should be no mistake about this - our success in resolving these issues will have a significant bearing on our standing in the world.

However intractable the problems may seem, we cannot resign ourselves to failure - any more than we can hide behind the contemporary version of Social Darwinism which says that to reach back for the poor and dispossessed is to risk being dragged down. That seems to me not only morally indefensible, but bad history.

We non-Aboriginal Australians should perhaps remind ourselves that Australia once reached out for us. Didn't Australia provide opportunity and care for the dispossessed Irish? The poor of Britain? The refugees from war and famine and persecution in the countries of Europe and Asia? Isn't it reasonable to say that if we can build a prosperous and remarkably harmonious multicultural society in Australia, surely we can find just solutions to the problems which beset the first Australians - the people to whom the most injustice has been done.

And, as I say, the starting point might be to recognise that the problem starts with us non-Aboriginal Australians.

It begins, I think, with the act of recognition. Recognition that it was we who did the dispossessing. We took the traditional lands and smashed the traditional way of life. We brought the disasters. The alcohol. We committed the murders. We took the children from their mothers. We practised discrimination and exclusion.

It was our ignorance and our prejudice. And our failure to imagine these things being done to us. With some noble exceptions, we failed to make the most basic human response and enter into their hearts and minds. We failed to ask - how would I feel if this were done to me?

As a consequence, we failed to see that what we were doing degraded all of us. If we needed a reminder of this, we received it this year. The Report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody showed with devastating clarity that the past lives on in inequality, racism and injustice in the prejudice and ignorance of non-Aboriginal Australians, and in the demoralisation and desperation, the fractured identity, of so many Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders.

For all this, I do not believe that the Report should fill us with guilt. Down the years, there has been no shortage of guilt, but it has not produced the responses we need. Guilt is not a very constructive emotion.

I think what we need to do is open our hearts a bit. All of us.

Perhaps when we recognise what we have in common we will see the things which must be done - the practical things.

There is something of this in the creation of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation. The council's mission is to forge a new partnership built on justice and equity and an appreciation of the heritage of Australia's indigenous people. In the abstract those terms are meaningless. We have to give meaning to 'justice' and 'equity' - and, as I have said several times this year, we will only give them meaning when we



commit ourselves to achieving concrete results.

If we improve the living conditions in one town, they will improve in another. And another. If we raise the standard of health by 20 per cent one year, it will be raised more the next. If we open one door others will follow.

When we see improvement, when we see more dignity, more confidence, more happiness - we will know we are going to win. We need these practical building blocks of change.

The Mabo judgment should be seen as one of these. By doing away with the bizarre conceit that this continent had no owners prior to the settlement of Europeans, Mabo establishes a fundamental truth and lays the basis for justice. It will be much easier to work from that basis than has ever been the case in the past.

For this reason alone we should ignore the isolated outbreaks of hysteria and hostility of the past few months. Mabo is an historic decision - we can make it an historic turning point, the basis of a new relationship between indigenous and non Aboriginal Australians.

The message should be that there is nothing to fear or to lose in the recognition of historical truth, or the extension of social justice, or the deepening of Australian social democracy to include indigenous Australians. There is everything to gain.

Even the unhappy past speaks for this. Where Aboriginal Australians have been included in the life of Australia they have made remarkable contributions. Economic contributions, particularly in the pastoral and agricultural industry. They are there in the frontier and exploration history of Australia. They are there in the ways. In sport to an extraordinary degree. In literature and art and music.

In all these things they have shaped our knowledge of this continent and of ourselves. They have shaped our identity. They are there in the Australian legend. We should never forget - they helped build this nation. And if we have a sense of justice, as well as common sense, we will forge a new partnership.

As I said, it might help us if we non-Aboriginal Australians imagined ourselves dispossessed of land we have lived on for 50,000 years - and then imagined ourselves told that it had never been ours.

Imagine if ours was the oldest culture in the world and we were told that it was worthless. Imagine if we had resisted this settlement, suffered and died in the defence of our land, and then were told in history books that we had given up without a fight. Imagine if non-Aboriginal Australians had served their country in peace and war and were then ignored in history books. Imagine if our feats on sporting fields had inspired admiration and patriotism and yet did nothing to diminish prejudice. Imagine if our spiritual life was denied and ridiculed. Imagine if we had suffered the injustice and then were blamed for it.

It seems to me that if we can imagine the injustice then we can imagine its opposite. And we can have justice.

I say that for two reasons: I say it because I believe that the great things about Australian social democracy reflect a fundamental belief in justice. And I say it because in so many other areas we have proved our capacity over the years to go on extending the realism of participating, opportunity and care.

Just as Australian living in the relatively narrow and insular Australia of the 1960s imagined a culturally diverse, worldly and open Australia, and in a generation turned the idea into reality, so we can turn the goals of reconciliation into reality.

There are very good signs that the process has begun. The creation of the Reconciliation Council is evidence itself. The establishment of the ATSIC - the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission - is also evidence. The Council is the product of imagination and goodwill. ATSIC emerges from the vision of indigenous self-determination and self-management. The vision has already become the reality of almost 800 elected Aboriginal Regional Councillors and Commissioners determining priorities and developing their own programs.

All over Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are taking charge of their own lives. And assistance with the problems which chronically beset them is at last being made available in ways developed by the communities themselves. If these things offer hope, so does the fact that this generation of Australians is better informed about Aboriginal culture and achievement, and about the injustice that has been done, than any generation before.

We are beginning to more generally appreciate the depth and the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. From their music and art and dance we are beginning to recognise how much richer our national life and identity will be for the participation of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders. We are

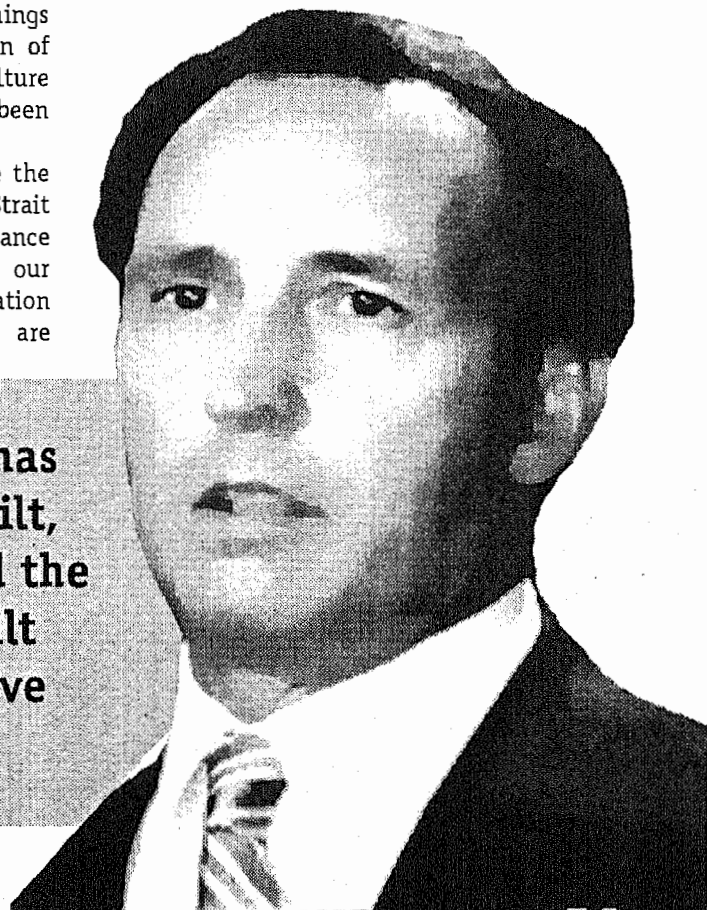
beginning to learn what the indigenous people have known for many thousands of years - how to live with our physical environment. Ever so gradually we are learning how to see Australia through Aboriginal eyes, beginning to recognise the wisdom contained in their epic story. I think we are beginning to see how much we owe the indigenous Australians and how much we have lost by living so apart.

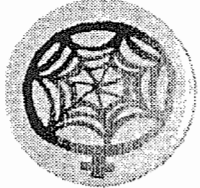
I said we non-indigenous Australians should try to imagine the Aboriginal view. It can't be too hard. Someone imagined this event today, and it is now a marvellous reality and a great reason for hope. There is one thing today we cannot imagine. We cannot imagine that the descendants of people whose genius and resilience maintained a culture here through 50,000 years or more, through cataclysmic changes to the climate and environment, and who then survived two centuries of dispossession and abuse, will be denied their place in the modern Australian nation.

We cannot imagine that. We cannot imagine that we will fail. And with the spirit that is here today I am confident that we won't. I am confident that we will succeed in this decade.

Thank you.

**Down the years, there has been no shortage of guilt, but it has not produced the responses we need. Guilt is not a very constructive emotion.**





## Rallying, fence-cutting, camping and free The women of Greenham Common are we...

The dawn of the 1980s marked a swing to Conservatism in the Western World. Margaret Thatcher was elected British Prime Minister in 1979, Ronald Reagan became President of the United States in 1980, and his Republican successor, George Bush the First, followed in 1988.

In spite of, or perhaps because of, this political climate, feminists kept up a high profile. In particular, the women-run peace movement experienced a resurgence as the Falklands crisis blew up, conflict over Northern Ireland raged on, and apartheid remained in South Africa. Other socio-political and environmental campaigns were waged for animal rights and against nuclear armament and militarism in general. The 1980s also saw the rise of the Greens as a political movement in Europe.

In 1981, a decision was made to site a US base for nuclear guided missiles near Newbury in Berkshire, in England. Out of wide public opposition came the idea for there to be a women's march from Cardiff, Wales to the proposed base site at Greenham, from August 27 to September 5. Upon the marchers' arrival at Greenham, the Women's Peace Camp was set up in opposition to the nuclear industry, and it remained there in some form for the next 19 years.

Between 1981 and 1983 the protesters attempted to disrupt construction work at the base, blockading it and

cutting through and pulling down the perimeter fence. A direct action in 1982 called 'Embrace the Base' saw an amaz-



ing 30,000 women travel to Greenham to link hands around the base in unified opposition to the nuclear base.

Despite these efforts, the first cruise missiles arrived at the base in November 1983, but the women maintained their protest throughout the 1980s. The camp was at its height of activity in 1985, and numbers at the camp ranged over time from as low as 100 to as high as six figures.

The inhabitants of the camp ranged from children to women in their 70s. Many of them faced court cases, fines, and sometimes imprisonment for their involvement in the protest, and the Newbury District Council often tried to close the camp by evicting them. Despite op-

position to their protest, the women set up a highly decorated environment not unlike the atmosphere of the Reclaim the Streets' movement's festive methods of reclaiming public space. Their visual signs of occupation incorporated banners, paintings, chalkings, paper doves and baby clothes - the latter being poignant mementoes of humanity in the face of this highly lethal industry. The banners were a canvas for political needlepoint, which had been a traditional form of political expression for women since the struggles of the suffragettes and the first-wave feminists 80 years earlier. A common symbol used by the women in their artwork and messages was the spinning web,

as a sign of women connecting and standing together in solidarity against a common cause.

Predictably, the mainstream and tabloid media were scathing of the women protesters, damning them as "man-hating harpies" and "woolly minds in woolly

hats". The women suffered harassment from police and security forces as well as local vigilantes.

The 1987 signing of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces by Ronald Reagan and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev signalled the end of cruise missiles at Greenham, and between 1989 and 1991 all missiles were removed from there. The US Air Force then left the base in 1992, and did the British Air Force. However, the Peace Camp remained as a semi-permanent protest against nuclear weapons in general.

The last Peace Camp women left in September 2000. Today, part of Greenham is being converted into a business park and the remainder is public land, as the name 'Common' suggests. The Greenham Women's Peace Camp is an amazing

example of the incredible results women have achieved through solidarity and persistence over an important social and environmental issue.



Gemma Clark

## Why I care about range apes...



My first experience with wild orangutans was a hand stretching out of a nest about 100 ft up. I was in a hammock, in a rainforest, at 5am one morning on a field trip to Borneo.

The wild female was with a male infant of about 5 years old, in Dr. Birute's research site in the forest next to Camp Leakey in Kalimantan. I was a member of a field trip comprising other zoo keepers and zoo volunteers. We followed the female and her son all day until she made a night nest at about 4.30pm.

It was my experiences on that trip, and my 12 years as ape keeper at Adelaide Zoo, which prompted me to accept the invitation to coordinate the Australian Orangutan Project in South Australia.

Orangutans once roamed over Asia, even as far as China. In fact the Yeti may well have been an ancient ancestor of the orangutan. Nowadays, orangutans only survive on two islands, Sumatra and Borneo. It is estimated that the Sumat-

ran species will be extinct within three years, and the Bornean in 10 years.

Extensive logging, poaching, and fires have all contributed to their downfall. Even back in 1996, when I went to Borneo, there were large numbers of orphan orangutans needing care. Now the problem is immense, with rehab centres and hospitals struggling to cope. The fires brought many badly burnt animals into care also.

The creation of oil palm plantations removes habitat and introduces human disturbance, fires are often deliberately lit, and create havoc with the forests.

Orangutans have a very slow reproductive rate: females have their first babies at 15 years of age, and then have babies eight years apart. Female babies stay with their mothers for the first nine years, male babies for seven.

The mother has to teach the infants and growing youngsters all they need to know to survive. They have a mental map

of the forest, know what trees are good to eat and when they are in fruit, how to use tools, to get water, etc etc.

They are largely solitary animals and adult males spend 98% of their time alone, females 97% (except for infant rearing). So orangutans need a lot of continuous forest for survival. All this makes them very vulnerable to human interference.

The Australian Orangutan Project is a charity set up to support the rescue and rehabilitation of many orphan orangutans being cared for *in situ*. There are rehabilitation sites in both Indonesia and Malaysia which are trying to cope with the huge influx of confiscated orphans. The AOP send financial assistance, medical supplies, equipment for anti-poaching patrols, and brings Indonesian staff down to Perth Zoo for training.

The Project was started up by Mr. Leif Cocks, curator of Exotic Species in Perth Zoo. For many years he was head

keeper of orangutans at Perth Zoo and he led the field trip that I went on in 1996, which started me off.

In 1997 he started up the AOP in WA. There are now branches in NSW and Vic. last year Penny Harper started the SA branch.

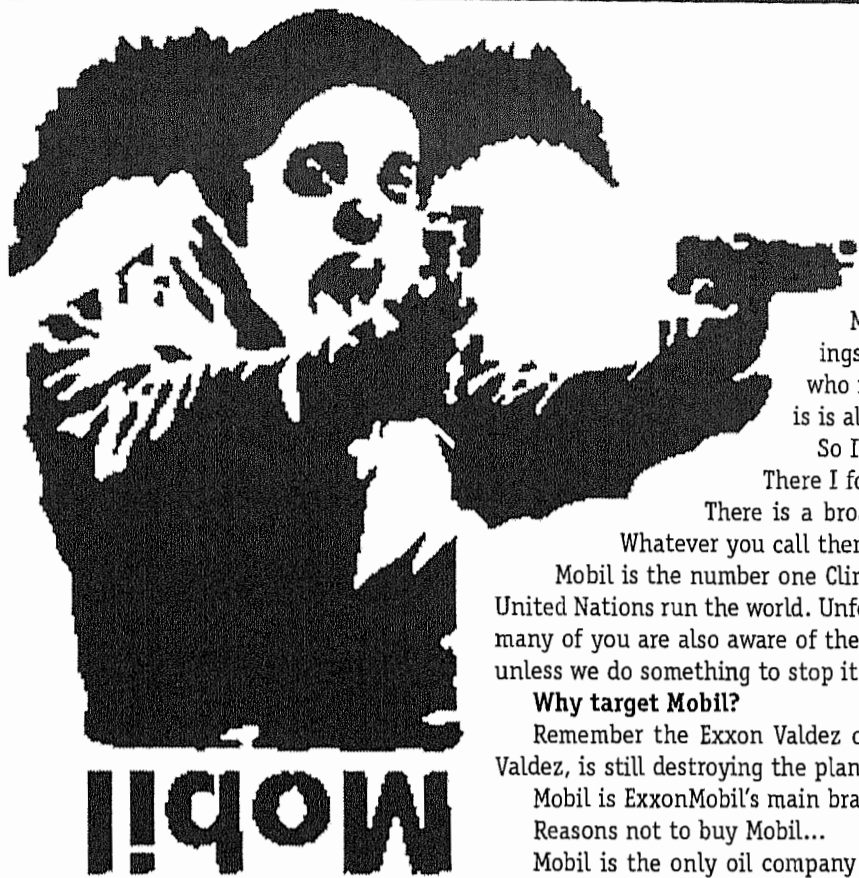
We have market stalls, where we sell merchandise, take donations and tell people about the plight of the orangutans. We have put up a graphics board on the orangutan enclosure of the Adelaide Zoo, and a stall is held there every month (weather permitting).

We have a merry bunch of volunteers in the SA branch, and we meet over tea every so often.

If anyone would like to find out more, or even become involved in helping with our stalls please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Penny Harper**  
Ph: 8373 4885  
[Pharper@senet.com.au](mailto:Pharper@senet.com.au)





# Mobil your time is up

Hey there. Ever seen images like these before? Perhaps on the parking meters around uni? Maybe you've seen 'boycott Mobil', or similar phrases stencilled on footpaths, banners on buildings or big speech bubbles that say "I'd rather be boycotting Mobil" on billboards? I'm not sure who is doing these outrageous acts of vandalism/street art, but I was determined to find out what is all about.

So I went to [www.immobilise.net](http://www.immobilise.net).

There I found the reasons why.

There is a broad coalition of unlikely peoples who have launched a campaign against Exxon/Esso/Mobil.

Whatever you call them they're the same entity.

Mobil is the number one Climate Criminal in the World. Many of you may be under the illusion that governments and the United Nations run the world. Unfortunately the truth is that it's the big four oil companies, Shell, Caltex, BP and Mobil. I'm sure many of you are also aware of the catastrophic and disastrous effects that global warming will have upon all of us this century unless we do something to stop it.

### Why target Mobil?

Remember the Exxon Valdez oil spill? Well, things haven't changed. ExxonMobil, the company responsible for the Exxon Valdez, is still destroying the planet.

Mobil is ExxonMobil's main brand in Australia. Mobil is ExxonMobil's public face.

Reasons not to buy Mobil...

Mobil is the only oil company in Australia that will buy shale oil. Developing shale oil will have significant environmental impacts including massively increasing Australia's greenhouse pollution BP, Caltex and Shell have decided not to buy shale oil.

Mobil is keeping the dirty polluting shale oil industry alive. Mobil made US\$15 billion in profits in 2001, the largest company profit ever recorded. Despite this, Mobil refuses to invest a single cent in clean renewable energy and plans to spend US\$100 billion on developing more oil and gas over the next ten years.

For more than a decade Mobil has tried to sabotage international action to tackle climate change. Shortly after becoming President George W Bush announced that the US Government was rejecting the Kyoto Protocol - the only international treaty to tackle climate change. Mobil donated more money than any other oil company to George W Bush's election campaign and is recognised as one of the forces behind his rejection of the Kyoto Protocol. Unlike Mobil, both BP and Shell support Kyoto.

Despite overwhelming scientific evidence, Mobil still denies that burning oil, coal and gas causes climate change. Mobil has spent millions of dollars trying to sabotage action on climate change. They fund climate sceptics and front groups that actively seek to distort and confuse the debate and place high profile ads misleading the public about the issue. Mobil thinks it can get away with destroying the climate for its own profit. It's wrong.

Don't buy Mobil.  
[immobilise.net.au](http://immobilise.net.au)

Cheers,  
Paul Grillo  
[chickenonyourhead@hotmail.com](mailto:chickenonyourhead@hotmail.com)

### A message from the streets.

This is a shout out to all graph artists, street changers, billboard revampers and sticker artists. In Europe thousands of street artists are incorporating the message of Fuck Mobil into their works. It has become an entire social movement that is sending shockwaves through Mobil's boardrooms. In Adelaide there's a whole bunch of people putting this stuff up anywhere, anytime. If Mobil just admits that global warming is real then the international efforts to halt global warming will have come a long way. If not it's still a lot of fun. So get into it. Go to [immobilise.net](http://immobilise.net) to download stencils, stickers and images. Check out other peoples work or upload your own images.

Mobil screwed up the whole Adelaide coastline, let's take it to the streets and immobilise!

Oh, there's this too...

It may be an offence to place stickers or posters in public places or on other people's property without permission. We do not request or authorise you to sticker or poster without permission. Always ask permission before sticker or postering.

## Are you eating GENETICALLY ENGINEERED foods?

Have you ever thought that your fruit and vegetables are looking stranger and stranger...with their perfect shiny skins, oversized proportions and gaudy colours? It would seem they are the product of some strange science lab experiment.

Well, fortunately, no fruit or vegetables available in Australia have been genetically engineered (GE). Unfortunately, however, there are many GE foods on supermarket shelves that cannot be identified by any bizarre and supernatural characteristics. You'd think that GE foods would look different, or be clearly labelled as such, but the truth is that GE foods are mostly contained as hidden ingredients in highly processed foods.

Loopholes in GE labelling laws mean that Australians are denied the right to know if they are eating GE. We are effectively eating in the dark.

In response to this, Greenpeace has produced the **True Food Guide** to give shoppers the right to know, and the ability to say 'no', to GE foods. The Guide rates more than 500 common super-

market brands as Red, Orange or Green, depending on their company policy. It is the only guide currently available in Australia on GE foods.

### What foods are GE?

Around the world, the four main genetically engineered crops are soy, corn, canola and cotton. Australia currently only grows GE cotton (and a small area of carnations); However there is a strong push from multinational companies, Monsanto and Bayer to grow their GE canola here next year.

So long as GE canola is not planted, the only locally grown GE food is cottonseed oil - which is common in deep-frying. We do, however, import GE soy, corn and canola from North America and it's these highly processed GE ingredients are most likely to be found in items like bread, pastries, snack foods, baked goods, vegetable oils and margarine. (but GE food can take many forms).

The majority of GE crops are used as feed for farm animals. We then eat the milk, meat and eggs from those animals

- which don't need to be labelled as GE.

Greenpeace estimates that the largest source use of GE in Australia is soy meal from imported from the US for poultry feed. We have identified at least 300,000 tonnes of GE soy imports entering Australia each year - to be used as chicken feed by Inghams and other poultry producers.

### Your guide to True Food!

To help fill the information gap for shoppers who want to avoid GE foods, Greenpeace has published the second edition of the **'True Food Guide'**. As well as rating common supermarket brands as Red, Orange or Green according to their policy on GE, the Guide also provides tips on what you can do to help keep your food, and the Australian environment,

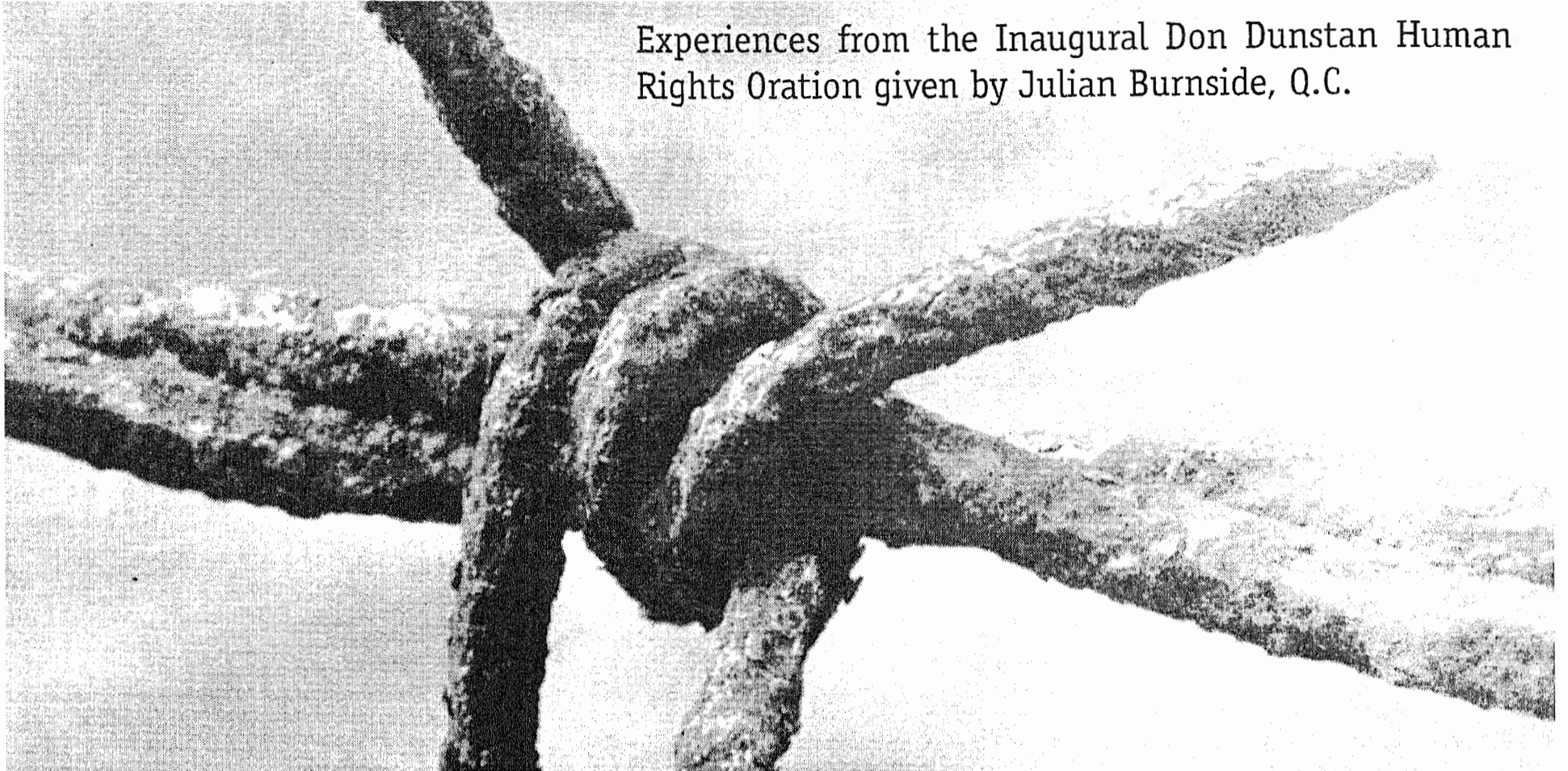
GE free. Since the first guide was published in 2002, many major food companies responded to consumer rejection of GE and moved from the Red to the Green list. This proves that everyday shoppers are the most powerful players in the debate over GE crops - when customers speak, food companies listen!

You can download a copy from [www.truefood.org.au](http://www.truefood.org.au), where you can also join the True Food Network. Make your voice heard and be part of a growing community of Australians who are working to keep Australia GE free - from paddock to plate!

**John Hepburn**  
Greenpeace GE campaigner

# Julian Burnside

Experiences from the Inaugural Don Dunstan Human Rights Oration given by Julian Burnside, Q.C.



*Don't fret, precious, I'm here. Step away from the window. Go back to sleep. Lay your head down child, I won't let the bogeymen come.*

Maynard James Keenan

Looking at Mr Burnside, one could be excused for assuming him to be just another cog in the bureaucratic machine – one more middle-aged white guy in a grey suit with grey hair and glasses. Every inch the stereotype of the kind that have forced themselves into our collective mindset by the politically incorrect detail of often being accurate.

But to hear him speak is to be inspired. He gave the Inaugural Don Dunstan Human Rights Oration on September 26 in Elder Hall. After happening upon an opinion piece of his in *The Advertiser* (of all places) earlier that day, I roped a friend of mine into going with me and together we

were reminded of the deceptiveness of appearances.

The oration was about the plight of refugees seeking asylum in this country, and the treatment and conditions they must endure indefinitely in the hope that their requests for freedom be granted. Mr Burnside spoke eloquently and convincingly. He opened by speaking of the views of Ben Chifley, Prime Minister from 1945 to 1949 and rival of Robert Menzies, who said

"I try to think of the Labor movement, not as putting an extra sixpence into somebody's pocket, or making somebody Prime Minister or Premier, but as a movement bringing something better to the people, better standards of living, greater happiness to the mass of the people. We have a great objective – the light on the hill – which we aim to reach by working for the betterment of mankind not only here but anywhere we may give a helping hand."

Mr Burnside went on to explain that Chifley's deputy was H. V. Evatt, who was elected to the post of President of the UN General Assembly in 1948, and presided over the UN's adoption and proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This is the most widely accepted international convention in human history, article 14 of which states "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution."

Julian Burnside, Queen's Counsel, is a respected member of the Australian legal community who represented the Tampa refugees pro bono, as related in David Marr's enlightening book, *Dark Victory*. His words and his actions are encouraging, proving that there are, in fact, members of the system who still give a damn and have the courage to take a stand on important issues, against powerful opponents.

His speech was composed mainly of illustrative examples of the refugees' situations, and of rather chilling revelations, some of which are paraphrased below:

Australia would be excluded from the European Union for human rights abuses, if we were geographically eligible.

Several studies show that after 12 months detention, 100 percent of detainees suffer from one or more psychological disorders.

The government is challenging a court decision that said that the Minister for Immigration could not hold a person in detention for the rest of their life.

It has been stated by a Nauruan official that "We have come under enormous pressure from Australia not to let lawyers, human rights workers or journalists get to the detainees," despite Nauru's Constitution guaranteeing legal help to anyone arrested or detained for any reason.

The current immigration policy constitutes a crime against humanity under Section 268.12 of the Australian Criminal Code.

The government has argued in court that it has the power and the obligation to return anyone whose claim for asylum has been rejected to their place of origin, regardless of whether they will be tortured or killed when that happens.

The example that affected me most deeply was the relation of a video that had been smuggled out of Iran, now in Burnside's possession. It bore the official Iranian watermark in a lower corner, indicating governmental origin. The video was shot in a medium-sized room, and shows three groups of people: two official-looking men reading from a lengthy document in a flat, bureaucratic manner; a group of five or six distressed-looking people, who look to be family or friends of the central figure of the third group – a man lying face-up on a table, flanked by two large men who at one stage pull him back down to the table when he looks distressed and sits up.

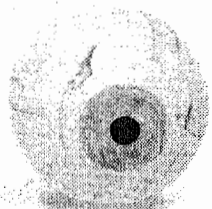
The video concentrates on the officials and their reading for some minutes, until the camera pans to the man on the table. Fully conscious, and without any form of anaesthetic, his eyes are removed with forceps.

This is the kind of regime from which refugees are seeking asylum. We, in our comfortable Australian lives, cannot conceive of the horror and fear of living under a regime willing to commit such acts upon its own citizens. There is a debate in Iran at the moment – not over whether such things should be done, but whether they should be aired on Iranian public television as a disincentive to cause any kind of trouble.

This is what we send people back to.

Fish

**Fully conscious and without any form of anaesthetic, his eyes are removed with forceps.**





Orientation is brought to you by the Students' Association of the University of Adelaide

# ORIENTATION 2004

**POWER, AUTHORITY...  
YOUR OWN 2 WAY RADIO!  
DIRECTOR POSITIONS NOW OPEN  
GO ON...DO IT FOR YOUR COUNTRY.**

**O'BALL UP TO 3 DIRECTORS REQUIRED  
O'WEEK UP TO 3 DIRECTORS REQUIRED  
O'CAMP UP TO 3 DIRECTORS REQUIRED  
O'TOURS UP TO 3 DIRECTORS REQUIRED  
O'GUIDE UP TO 3 EDITORS REQUIRED**

Applications available at the SAUA (Ground floor, Lady Symon Building). Applications close 5pm Friday 24th October with interviews being held on Wednesday 29th October.

For more information on these positions please call **VICTOR STAMETESCU** or **SARAH HANSON-YOUNG** at the SAUA on 8303 5406, or email [saua@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:saua@adelaide.edu.au)

## HELPERS REQUIRED...

If you are interested in Orientation & would like to help, please register your details at the SAUA. All expressions of interest are welcomed.

# WE NEED YOU!

# SAUA Office Bearers

Since last edition, your office bearers have been dropping like proverbial flies. Spare a thought for those left holding the proverbial fort . . .

## Leah Marrone, Education Vice-President



**STUDENT POVERTY.** It is a big issue, apart from the below-poverty line payments Centrelink occasionally hand out, students generally find themselves in low paid casual jobs with poor conditions to try and meet the basic necessities of life- rent, food and alcohol, not to mention trying to scrape money together for textbooks and readings. In fact students work on average 15-20 hours a week. This is drastically affecting one's sleep, missing lectures and tutorials due to extremely shifts of exhaustion from the long hours of night int. If these issues ring true to you come down on the Lawns from the 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> of October between 10.30 and 3pm each day and get some information

on how to improve your conditions, check out our lost property sale for some really cheap textbooks, bikes, clothes... listen to the speakers, watch the bad job fashion parade, have a **FREE LUNCH** on us and grab some other free stuff like condoms, tampons, shirts, toilet paper.

standing up for public education.

Get involved, or at least come and have a sausage.

Leah.marrone@student.adelaide.edu.au

**COLUMN OUT OF DATE**

Other events include the WTEU National Strike- show them your support on Oct 16 as Staff and Students around Australia stand up against the attacks to them in the current higher education reform package that ties up funding with IR reform.

\*Public Education rally- 8<sup>th</sup> November Wellington Square- join community groups and other students/staff in

## Georgia Phillips, Women's Officer



Hi everyone!

Welcome back to the final term of 2003. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable break and is looking forward to the end of the semester!

### Reclaim the Night

As mentioned in previous columns, we are currently planning the annual Reclaim the night event to be held on **Friday October 31**.

Any interested women who would like to get involved in this event should contact me in the Students' Association.

### Women's Standing Committee

I would like to take this opportunity

to thank all those members of the Women's Standing Committee who have now finished their terms in this role. Thank you to Kate, Lauren, Belle, Amy, Linda and Julia for your help over the last 12 months

Congratulations to those women who are newly elected to the Women's Standing Committee - Mel Purcell, Jess Cronin, Linda Mignone, Kellie Armstrong-Smith, Jo Krips and Emily Negrin. I look forward to working with you over the next couple of months. Congratulations also to Fiona Richardson - your Women's Officer for 2004.

Remember, these are your representatives, who are here to work for you.

### Women's Collective E-Group

If there are any women who would like to be a part of the Women's Department e-group, simply send an email to saua\_womenscollective@yahoo.com

Happy studying!

Georgia

Phone: (08)8303 5406

Email: georgia.phillips@adelaide.edu.au

## Sarah Hanson-Young, President



Well, it's been a while since I was last able to update you all on the activities and sunrises of the Students' Association. A lot has been happening.

Firstly, you may notice some big blue posters around the campus that kind of look a bit like a pharmaceutical advert with the title "/ENROL". The university is launching its **online enrolment program** whereby all Adelaide Uni students, across all campuses, commencing and continuing will be required to enrol online and not the old fashioned way of pens on paper. Each faculty and course is required to do so at different times so you will have to log onto "Access Adelaide" to find out when you are required to enrol. If you have

any questions the lovely people in the student centre will be able to help you.

The Students' Association appeared before the **Higher Education Senate Inquiry** in early October to highlight the inequities and flaws of the government's proposed higher education legislation. Our comments were well received and we have had much positive feedback from the day. The Vice-Chancellor also spoke and make some important points about the negative impact these changes will have on South Australia.

On Saturday November 8 there will be a huge **Public Education Rally** to raise awareness of the dire state of public education in South Australia. Gathering at the Colonel Light Statue,

this rally aims to signify the threat South Australia's face from the Howard government's higher education policy - it's bad for all students, but worse for South Australians!

If you would like to get involved in this campaign or find out more about the rally please send me an email

sarah.hanson@adelaide.edu.au

## Darren Kurtzer, ATSI Officer



Welcome back to all, hope you had a good break and did not have to spend all your time studying. Boy, the year has just flown by and we are already nearing the end of the second semester.

But, before you all run away to enjoy the long break or head off to jobs over the summer we are planning to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures this week. At this stage we have the CASM choir, guest speakers and kangaroo snags planned, but it would be good to do more...However, for this to occur your support is necessary, as I am trying to complete my studies just like most of you. This being said if you would like to see Indigenous people take the stage and show off their talent, then come speak to me either on the Lawns or in The SAUA

Office some time this week.

Remember, there are two *On Dit* editions left for you to submit ATSI-related articles and reviews. You can e-mail me directly [darren.kurtzer@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:darren.kurtzer@adelaide.edu.au) or just send it to [ondit@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:ondit@adelaide.edu.au).

Regards  
Darren

## Paul Grillo, Environment Officer

**RESIGNED**

## Emma O'Loughlin, Female Sexuality Officer

**NO COLUMN SUBMITTED**

## Jasyn Walsh, Male Sexuality Officer

**RESIGNED**

**Your Students' Association: joining forces to fend off VSU**



## HORNHEAD 2003

Again student radio is running a gig to please those eager ears. Have you been deprived of great live music for so long..... No longer is this the case. STUD RAD present HORNHEAD 2003; an extravaganza of local noise. All bands playing have been a crucial part of the Adelaidian local music scene and have all played on Adelaide Uni's award winning programme Local Noise. Come and support these fantastic high energy bands and support Stud Rad at the same time!

**Adelaide UniBar Thursday October 30**  
Doors open 7:30 pm

Tickets \$5, sold at SAUA office,  
UniRecords and by contacting Stud Rad

Barcode, fighterpilot, The Icons, Laminar  
+ more

Giveaways ALL night courtesy of  
Verandah Music, plus regular raffles &  
cheap beer

### Monday 20th

- 9 The Flux Capacitor Feat. DARE! The Adelaide Radio serial
- 10 Form of Intellect
- 11 The Vinyl Lounge w/ Mark and Potter
- 12 DJ's Choice playin all your fav. Dance hall beats

### Tuesday 21st

- 9 LOCAL NOISE
- 10 Dont Ask us We're Just Girls
- 11 Pirates of the Airwaves
- 12 Its Not Dead Air... its a Dramatic pause

### Saturday 25th

- 9 London Loves Whipping Picadilly
- 10 Working Title W' Emma + Dan
- 11 Roots Records
- 12 Stefan Jazz

### Monday 27th

- 9 Saturday Roller Disco
- 10 Three Chords
- 11 Punk Around
- 12 Heavy as a Really Heavy Thing

**This week on Local Noise -**  
Southern rock outfit Foreshore

### Budding Radio Presenters

Mum ever say you had a beautiful face for radio? Well here is your chance. STUDENT RADIO NEED U!!! Next years show applications are now open so put on your best porn radio-voice and you to could host 'Saturday Night Love Connection'.... or something totally different, I hope. Send your details to radioradio@snet.com.au, pick up a Show application form from the Students Association office or call Mark and Dave on 8303 5000. Applications close before semester end so get a wriggle on. STUDENT RADIO - the stuff dreams are made of!



# South Australia's Own



## King vs. House

A recent sign change in the Rundle Inn has sparked a price war between Rundle Street's felafel kingdoms, and as the houses go head to head in a consumer-driven competition, we thought we'd get the scoop. Which of these two icons really is the felafel king?

### Felafel King

256 Rundle Street  
City

My favourite for many months has been The Rundle Inn. It offers a huge selection of tasty felafel and yiros goodies. Rundle Inn has been providing Rundle Street with traditional Lebanese food for almost seven and a half years now, and almost everything is home made by the family that runs it.

The food is exceptional, with wonderfully juicy chicken yiros, and yummy felafel balls. All dishes are made with beautifully fresh lettuce and tomato. Rundle Inn also make their own garlic sauce which combines with brilliantly with the marinated meat creating a taste sensation. You won't find the Rundle Inn skimping on the garlic sauce either - perhaps the downside to many other felafel roll makers. We talked to Elisa who is the daughter of George, the owner. We also asked her what set Rundle Inn apart from the rest. She said that it was the traditional Lebanese food that set them apart, their main customers were people who knew how a felafel was supposed to taste. Rundle Inn has a lot of loyal customers who continually return along with the usual Friday and Saturday night crowd.

Rundle Inn do a variety of wraps not just the traditional yiros or felafel including a variety of vegetarian wraps that have great fillings like hummus, vine leaves, potato and onion salad, lentils and much more. For dessert Rundle Inn have traditional birds-nest and baklava treats (pastry bundles filled with sweet nuts and honey), and they also have a small selection of ice cream. There are also fridges full of soft drink and juices, with cigarettes and coffee available behind the counter.

Recently George invested in a new menu sign and created a meal deal to celebrate, which sparked a price war between the two felafel houses. At last look Rundle Inn were offering the \$8.80 Coke and yiros meal deal along with the \$7.80 yiros and Mt. Franklin water deal. The prices are changing almost daily now so I couldn't guess as to what it shall be in the future, but whatever the price, you are guaranteed great value.

Although the Rundle Inn doesn't have the flashy decor of the Felafel House, it is more suitable for larger groups with tables and chairs inside. The interior is slightly old fashioned, but don't be put off by it. Once you have tried the Rundle Inn, I'm sure you will never want to eat yiros or felafel anywhere else again.

Belle

### Felafel House

(Next to the other one)  
City

Felafel House, which you will find at the eastern end of Rundle Street, is as you see it today the culmination of eight years of quality customer service, great food and photographs. Over the years the Felafel House has established itself as the most popular and frequented place to get a yiros. So what is it that sets this place apart, and what do they have to say about the price war?

But really, how excited can you get about a ball of traditional Lebanese cuisine? Very excited apparently. Over the years we have seen the two felafel places become less like houses and more like icons, standing as strong pillars on Rundle Street caught in modest rivalry. We have also watched the dissemination of the yiros into Saturday night street culture, and also film, as the felafel nabbed a spot in the title of the Australian film *He Died with a Felafel in his Hand*.

Felafels, yiros, pastries and a large variety of soft drinks are available from the Felafel House. The yiros is good, but if you can get barbecue sauce on it, all the better. Felafel House prides itself on using only fresh ingredients, and they make everything on site - including the garlic sauce.

However, being so close to the competition we asked Alex, whose father has owned the store for eight years now, what sets them apart from the rest. Alex said that they were very proud of their customer service, and the quality of their product. At the Felafel House all the food is homemade and they go to great pains to make sure everything is fresh and tastes good.

You will often find a young crowd milling around the counter, as a majority of their customers are university students and young professionals. Perhaps they are drawn to the decor, as the walls are lined with rows and columns of photographs of customers, and if you look hard you might even find some of your friends or some Z-grade Adelaide Uni celebrities.

A yiros will set you back around \$7, however since the price war, prices did drop to around \$5.50. Today prices are pretty much back to normal; however, have a look around and you might be able to snag a drink and yiros deal. So if you are hungry, grab a yiros. As for where from, that's up to you to decide.

Juella

# Hand-made by the Cooper family.



An  
indigenous  
classic:

*Her Sister's Eye*  
Vivienne Cleven  
University of Queensland Press

*Her Sister's Eye* is Vivienne Cleven's second novel and follows the success of her 2000 David Unaipon Award for the comical *Bitin' Back*. Revealing the range of her writing abilities, *Her Sister's Eye* moves away from comedy to deal with the serious subject matter of the impact of racial violence in the lives of those who are oppressed by racism. It is unique in terms of Australian fictional writing, and has much in common with the work of African-American fictional writer, Toni Morrison. *Her Sister's Eye* focuses on the lives of several Indigenous Australian characters, revealing the ways in which their destinies have been shaped and impacted on by racism. The difference, however, for much of Australia's black population, and a key difference in terms of Cleven's and Morrison's work, is that most black Australians cannot avoid having to enter into complex relationships with 'white' Australians. Cleven therefore needs to construct complex characters on both sides of the racial divide. This piece reveals the almost schizophrenic nature of such relationships where the oppressed are forced to pay attention to necessary courtesies in order to survive but where fear, anger and hatred can lie simmering beneath the surface just waiting to explode.

*Her Sister's Eye*, like *Bitin' Back*, is set in a small rural Australian town, this time called Mundra. The physical landscape of the town is dominated by a large and fear-inspiring river, the Stewart River, which is the scene of many of the tragedies that transpire. The river evokes a landscape which seems to subsume or perhaps even heighten the catastrophic nature of the events which take place. Cleven lays bare the manner in which racism can come to destroy the lives of its victims even as they seek to avoid or confront its effects. Using a more simplistic approach to style and language, Cleven nonetheless manages to tell a story which enthralls.

The story told in *Her Sister's Eye* begins with the introduction of the character Archie Corella who, we learn, is horribly disfigured. The reason for Archie's mutilation remains a mystery to both the reader and to the protagonist until almost the very end. Also central to the story are Sofie Salte, with 'her woman's body and child's mind', and her big sister Murilla Salte who is meant to look out for her sister, to be 'her sister's eye'. Then there is the 'white' Caroline Drysdale who is the incontinent and half-crazy wife of the town patriarch (as well as employer of Murilla), and her son Donald and husband, Reginald. Adding to the complexity of the tale told are the stuffy and pretentious women who make up the Red Rose Ladies and represent the philanthropic elements of Mundra, where benevolence and charity is reserved for those who are 'white' and who agree with the town ethos of keeping all the blacks out of the town; and of course, their husbands who act out many of the most tangible and aggressive acts of racial violence.

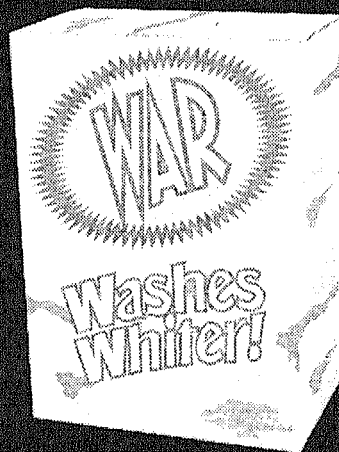
Cleven's work testifies to the increasing range of talent present in Indigenous Australian writing. Her work confirms that the Life Narrative is not the only genre available to tell stories capable of contesting and confronting hegemonic discourse. The text was referred to by one reviewer as 'Aboriginal Gothic', and in the sense that its story is grotesque, mysterious and desolate this may well be true. Such labelling, however, can be a trendy way of ignoring the truths told within the story. Importantly, it is a tale of the ways in which racial violence destroys lives and its horrific consequences for all those who tolerate its presence within their community. Even so, those with access to power and privilege, those with a possessive investment in 'whiteness' can use their 'white' collateral to minimise these effects, something that the dispossessed and marginalised victims, the Indigenous victims, of Cleven's novel are unable to do.

This work by Vivienne Cleven shows that one can certainly use other genres to tell new tales of what it is like to be Indigenous in a colonial nation which has still to acknowledge the impact of racism in the lives of those effected by its savagery.

Sonja Kurtzer

On Dit 71.17

DECEPTION



*Weapons of Mass Deception*  
Sheldon Rampton & John  
Stauber  
Hodder Headline

Rampton and Stauber are of the calibre of authors from the type of organisations that a progressive student market should not only be supporting, but really taking the time to be educated by. Together they edit *PR Watch*, a quarterly report on the public relations/ affairs industry.

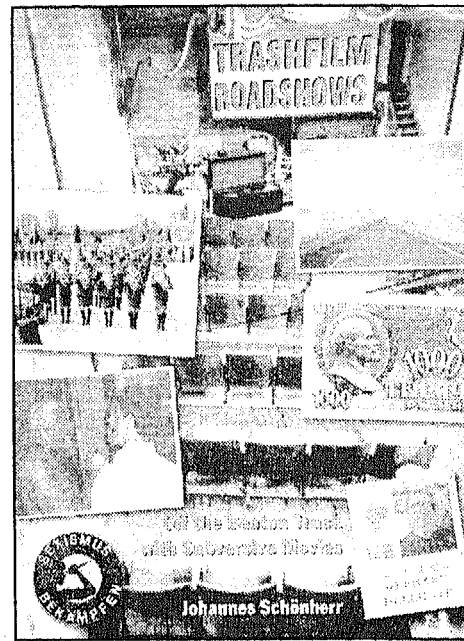
*Weapons of Mass Deception* rolled off the presses on July 28, just three-and-a-half months after the toppling of the giant statue of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad's Firdos Square. This tight timeframe could sometimes suggest a hasty cobbling together of factoids and hypotheses, but it soon becomes obvious that Stauber and Rampton are experts who had their background research ready to explain what the Bush Administration came up with next.

*Weapons of Mass Deception* reveals some astonishing facts that provide fascinating background to the spectacle of 'Operation Iraqi Freedom'. How the rest of the world sees the United States is carefully crafted by public relations firms, just like an advertising campaign for an anti-dandruff shampoo. And I mean that quite literally. In 2001, Charlotte 'Head and Shoulders' Beers was appointed to the role of undersecretary of state for public diplomacy, (Beers had also been CEO of two of the world's top advertising agencies).

Rampton and Stauber explain for the uninitiated a wealth of PR exercises and media stunts that have shaped the American - and hence global - political landscape since the first Gulf War: conservative thinktanks and front groups (eg the Committee for the Liberation of Iraq, Citizens for a Free Kuwait), popular myths like 'babies from incubators' story, Orwellian doublespeak ('shock and awe', 'axis of evil', 'defense'), and the popular consumption of militaristic products and services (eg the Hummer SUV).

And it's not just those crazy Americans. Image manipulation and outright lies are increasingly a given in the Australian people's relationship with their government and mass media. Anyone remember *Children Overboard*?

Gemma Clark



*Trashfilm Roadshows*  
Johannes Schönherr  
Headpress

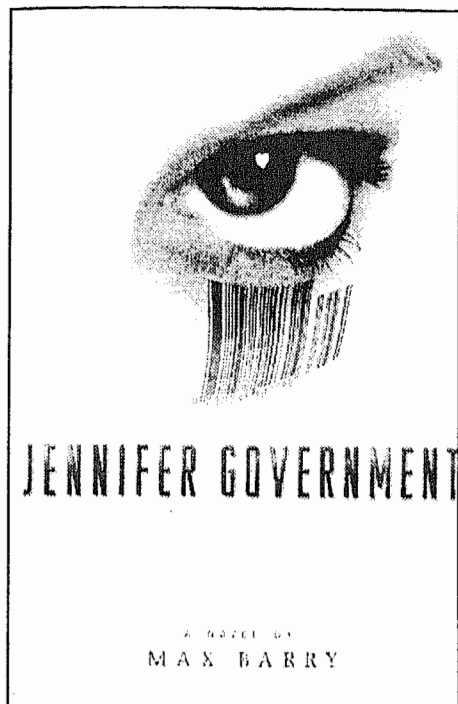
This book is a biographical account of trash movie fanatic Johannes Schönherr's various adventures on the quest to show his vast collection of weird movies. It starts off in his early days of organising trash film showings in the early '90s around his native Denmark and Germany. This includes hosting New York 'Transgression Cinema' legends Nick Zedd and Richard Kern, and the problems they would encounter with violent militant feminist groups swamping their productions. After this apt introduction the narrative moves onto much more substantial work than simply repeating his memories, as well as short, humorous interlude chapters about odd jobs and single stories from his past. Schönherr depicts a bleak picture of modern Russia, and his film show tour through the post-communist state is very insightful. In his simple yet poignant style he talks of projecting his work in a massive, luxurious yet dilapidating hall constructed in the Stalinist era. He recalls his own firsthand account of notorious New York punk G.G. Allin's last ever gig in which G.G. maimed as many of the audience as possible before running naked through the Bronx, being chased by police and angry punks. His short story of finding classic pieces of home video from the '50s to the '70s (including forced animal porn and children's birthdays) when he worked in New York is also amusing.

However the most outstanding chapter is the final. Johannes Schönherr came across the chance to visit North Korea as he was keen to obtain absurd propaganda educational and action films. Being a visitor of the state, he was invited to the week-long 'North Korean Film Festival', where half of the week's showings were on a VCR in the hotel he was staying at. This piece is spectacular; the permanently indented paranoia and pride of North Koreans and its Government experienced by Schönherr is incredible. This book is a must for anyone who is into the trash movie subculture, but the attraction certainly doesn't end there. Written dryly by a Danish guy who obviously has tried to master the English language, and containing many close and heartfelt moments, *Trashfilm Roadshows* is brilliant, subtly political, and coolly illustrated.

Jimmy Trash

ondit@adelaide.edu.au





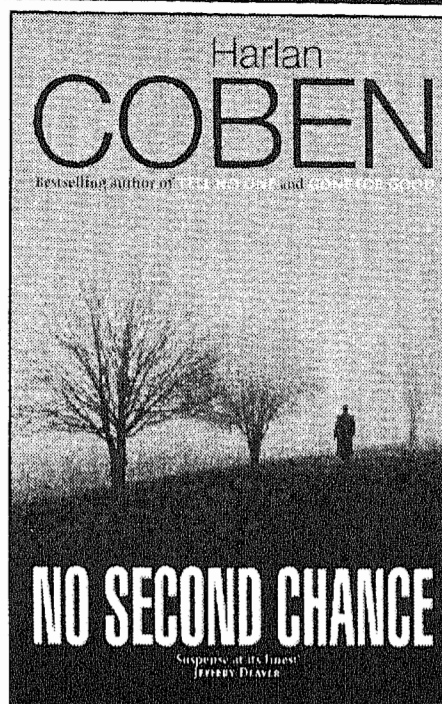
**Jennifer Government**  
Max Barry  
Publisher:

In the world of Jennifer Government, everybody is known by the company for which they work. Hack Nike works for Nike in Australia, a USA country. While working he signs a contract before reading and discovers he has signed up to raise public awareness of Nike's new shoe by gaining word of mouth endorsement through killing people who buy the sneakers, in the tradition of the 1980's gangland fashion wars. This gains the attention of Jennifer Government, a mysterious barcoded FBI agent.

The plot goes from Australia to Los Angeles to London, its characters let loose in a world where a hostile takeover involves cyber-terrorism and paramilitary action as well as stock market manipulation and the Government stands seemingly powerless against the actions of mega corporate alliances that have grown from frequent flyer programs. The book will keep you reading, for no other reason than to see what the body count will end at. The dialogue is quick and sometimes even witty, but leaves little room for character development. They draw conclusions from apparent epiphanies and the plot and actions can be confusing. While the book has great potential, without allowing fully fleshing out the characters and the world they live in, this, like most popcorn films, is fun to watch but not to analyse.

This will be turned into a film; it has the prerequisite violence, action and stupid one-liners, but underlying all the crassness is a vivid indictment of the potential power of capitalism and corporate greed. Frankly, the idea of Adidas suing employees who quit for loss of earnings if their replacements aren't as good as them, sounds nearly plausible. Also an online game has been created in the vision of the book <http://www.nationstates.net/cgi-bin/index.cgi>. Go join and eat your national animal.

Brian Townley



**No Second Chance**  
Harlan Coben  
Orion Books

I flew through this book in a day and a half because I had trouble putting it down - always a good sign. It's a crime novel and the action was fast-paced with plenty of twists and turns - so many it was occasionally hard to know what the hell was happening, but that was the only negative aspect of this book.

Harlan Coben is a best selling author with two other 'stand-alone' crime novels to his name as well as the *Myron Bolitar* series; he writes well, there is nothing tacky or clichéd about his storylines and he expresses the feelings and thoughts of the main character in a very apt and talented manner.

The story opens with the main character Marc Seidman in hospital after a brush with death, his flashbacks and the police interrogation allow the reader to piece together what happened, but the full story isn't known until the end of the book. When Marc wakes he is informed that he nearly died from two gunshot wounds to his chest and head and has been drifting in and out of consciousness for 12 days. As if this isn't traumatic enough, he discovers that his wife is dead and his six-month-old daughter Tara is missing, with no ransom demand yet received.

When the inevitable ransom note is received, a botched pick-up leaves Marc two million dollars poorer and without his daughter. As time goes by the police run out of leads and assume Tara is dead and Marc gradually begins to pick up the shattered pieces of his life, until 18 months later another ransom demand is made. The plot thickens and the theories and impossibilities run rampant in the second half of the book, with family members, ex-lovers and a baby-smuggling ring all thrown in.

The book is well written and enjoyable, and most of the revelations at the climax were not predictable. For anyone who enjoys intelligent murder-mysteries this book is a must read.

Nat



**The Travels of Ibn Battutah**  
Edited by Tim Mackintosh-Smith

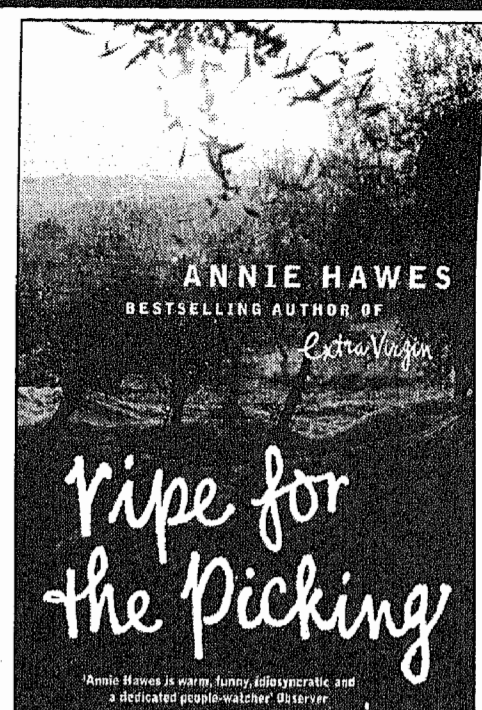
This is a new abridged translation of an epic travel diary written in the fourteenth century. As such, it can only really be evaluated upon the quality of its tales, and its readability. As far as the first criterion is concerned, this was a profoundly interesting read. Ibn Battutah was an Islamic judge of sorts, who set out at a reasonably early age on a pilgrimage to Mecca, the centre of the Islamic world. His journey was compared in the foreword of the editor with that of Marco Polo's. Ibn Battutah travelled farther, and wrote more. I have not read Marco Polo's report, and so have no comparison, but that does not stop me from being able to sing the praises of this book.

The most striking aspect of this book is the different way in which the author views the world. He repeats stories that he heard during his travels that could not possibly be conceived of as true, yet are told with the greatest credulity. Also, the topics of taboo are so different that tales of women, who are owned by sultan's to 'entertain' his guests sexually, are told enthusiastically, and the only reference to vice regards religious, and personal disrespect.

Often, the places of the travels correspond to places that are known today, and the history is quite valuable. There are tales of the great pyramids being looted by Sultans as it was happening. There is great historical merit in this work, and also, from a post-colonial perspective it is valuable to show a non-European perspective of the fourteenth century. Unfortunately, as is the case probably with any archaic text, is that it is sometimes quite difficult to understand both the phrasing, and also the minds of the people described in the tales.

Odin

Jill,  
*My Place*,  
by Sally Morgan:



**Ripe for the Picking**  
Annie Hawes  
Penguin

*Ripe for the Picking* is a sequel to *Extra Virgin* by Annie Hawes. It is a light, gentle account of life in Linguria, Italy and the author's experience as an Englishwoman abroad. Unlike some books of this genre it avoids being insufferably smug and superior about being a Brit in exile, surrounded by backward peasants. Hawes is obviously keen on Italian village life and gives enthusiastic descriptions of the region's festivals, foods and traditional family life once she has bagged her local Romeo. The plot doesn't exactly gallop along; Hawes spends much of the book agonising over which kinds of insects are eating out her villa's roof beams, but there is lots of information about the growing of olives, pruning the vines and the other bucolic stuff people do in the country when there are no decent shops or movies to go to. This is an ideal book to read if earnest descriptions of hard physical work give you a vicarious thrill as people dry-stonewall terraces and stay up all night bottling tomato sauce by hand when the equipment breaks down. Yet despite Hawes' evident love of Italy this is very much the depiction of a culture by an outsider and the characters remain elusive and insubstantial stereotypes. Armchair travellers will probably enjoy this book, but sadly I found it a bit dull.

Wilson S

"We're only just coming to terms with everything... with her[Nan] gone, we could pass for anything. Greek, Italian, Indian... what a joke. We wouldn't want to, now. It's too important. It'd be like she never existed. Like her life meant nothing, not even to her own family... When this is over, I'm going to stand up and be counted."



*We Will Rock You* brings the atmosphere of a rock concert to the theatre. It's brilliant, energetic, youthful and fun, but most of all it's a real comment on popular music and culture. Written and directed by Ben Elton, *We Will Rock You* is a roller coaster ride into a futuristic fantasy. Elton has taken the powerful music of Queen and cleverly constructed a tale of a world where mass marketing has gone mental and all originality has been outlawed.

In this dark futuristic realm all instruments are illegal and the only music available is that produced by the sinister Global Soft. The music of this globalised corporation is all mass produced and transmitted into the minds of the young, along with their hamburgers and fries. But deep in the underground of this land a rebellion is forming. Those sick of manufactured pop, virtual reality and Radio Ga Ga, come together to fight for freedom.

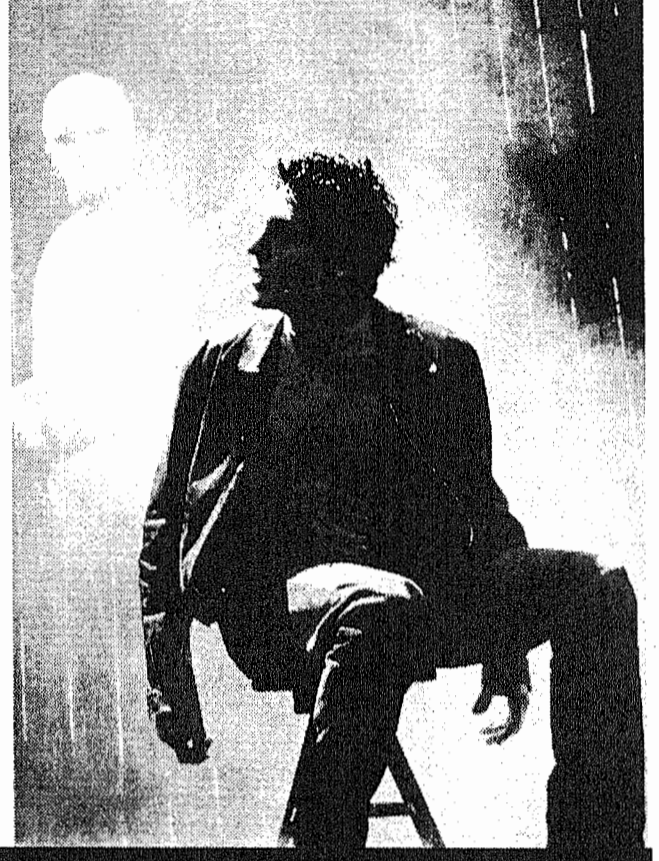
Queen's vibrant anthems are brought to life by a fantastic cast and band. There are many memorable characters including; Brit (Jason Chong), Oz (Amanda Harrison), Scaramouche (Kate Hoolihan) and Galileo

(Michael Falzon), each giving it all to produce a wonderful performance. This colourful cast take you on a journey through a musical revolution as they fight back against the homogenisation of culture and the dark cloud of globalisation.

*We Will Rock You* uses interesting sets and lighting that grabs your attention and draws you into to this world ruled by a Killer Queen. When the curtains go up and lights go down, the audience is met with a massive screen. The screen hums and glows and transports you into the future. Lasers also zap throughout the performance catching the rebels with in its deadly beams.

*We Will Rock You* is an enjoyable show and a quirky tale. Queen's music is as powerful as ever and brilliantly woven into the plot of this musical. *We Will Rock You* is currently playing its Australian premiere season at the Regent Theatre in Melbourne, but it is sure to head to Adelaide one of these days.

Leo Greenfield



#### Zu design

#### Jewellery and Objects

103 Gays Arcade Balcony  
(Just off Adelaide Arcade)  
Adelaide

Zu design & jewellery and objects, is the home of wearable art. Set high above the arcades and busy crowds of Rundle Mall, it houses exquisite jewellery and fascinating contemporary designs. Each piece on display is different to the next and each has its own individual character. The jewellery or wearable contemporaries are like tiny sculptures, miniature pieces of art created to adorn the body. All the works in the collection are unique and all created by local artists.

Zu design was established in 1997 by four artists and jewellers; Jane Bowden, Roman Kielczewski, Juliet Michell and Jane Ruljancich. Today Bowden and Kielczewski continue to run the gallery, with their studio and workshop right next door. Originally these artists were associated with the Jam Factory before they set off to create their own gallery. After looking around Unley and North Adelaide for quite some time, they discovered their current location, nestled up above Gays Arcade. This site is perfect for the exhibiting of artwork as it compliments their beautiful creations.

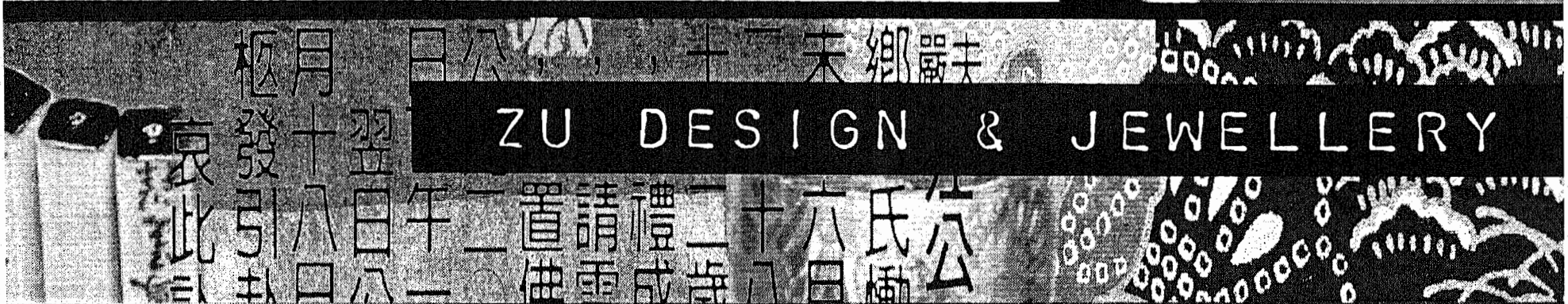
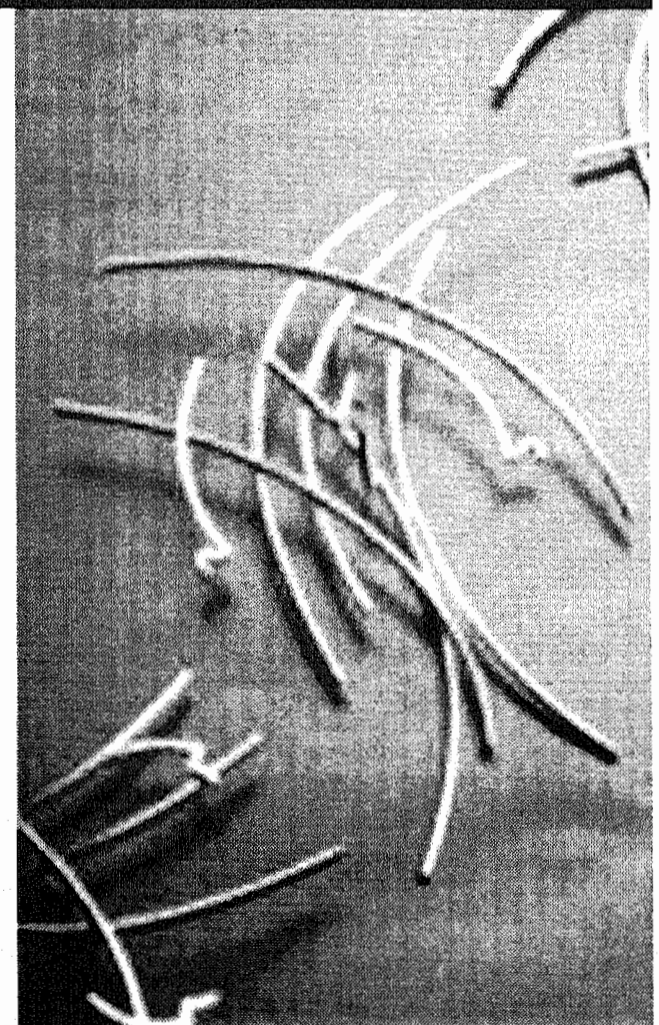
The minimalist style of this white walled gallery makes wondering around the collections at Zu design an intriguing experience.

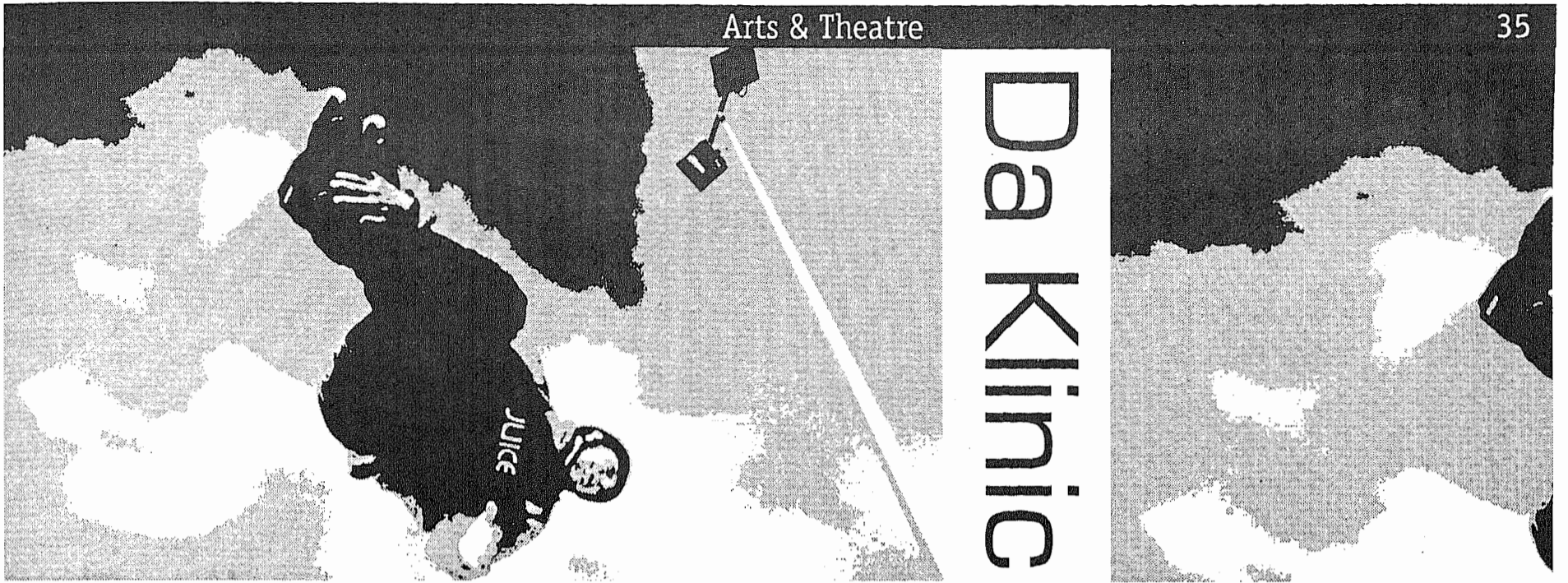
Currently on display at Zu design is an inventive collection by artist Zara Collins titled, Finders Keepers. Collins' work is centred on an Asian theme and incorporates the use of collected objects. Collins, who started out as a glass artist, juxtaposes strong metals with delicate pieces of recycled Asian collectables. Throughout the collection Collins has taken old chopsticks, Asian newspaper and decorative Japanese papers and transformed them into alluring pieces of jewellery. Collins uses an interesting technique of coating and sculpting these recycled goods with resin. The final product is stunning and gives off a fashionable vibe.

Zu design is worth a look, even if you don't have the cash to spend up big. The gallery's objects are extremely stylish and show that art is not always for the walls of galleries but also for the body.

Zara Collins' collection will be on display until the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. Zu design, is open Monday through to Thursday from 10am to 5pm, Fridays from 10am to 6:30pm and Saturdays from 11am to 4pm.

Leo Greenfield





*On Dit* recently visited Da Klinik on Currie Street. I had to do a double take as I walked into the basement premises on Currie Street, a skate ramp and smooth pieces and a what? Bam. Right there, a skate ramp floating amongst a hectic swirl of aerosol art enticing punters with curves of splendour. *On Dit* talked with Shep and Jeff about their enterprise and Australian hip hop culture.

**How was Da Klinik developed?**

Myself and Jeff used to be in a skate team together and we did demonstrations for various skate shops in Adelaide about five or six years ago. We basically grew up doing demonstrations and learning about event management from being there and doing it. I started running DJing and skating lessons, then I teamed up with Carlewe Youth Centre and saw the interest. I had a lot of friends who were very talented but didn't have jobs and weren't doing anything with their talents, so I spoke to Jeff and said "Hey, I got this crazy idea; lets do a show and lets do workshops" then Jeff came onboard and the rest is history.

The quietly spoken Jeff continues. We had to find somewhere to do it, so we went round to a few places in the city until we came here. The size, price and location were really good. We were blown away when we found it. So we thought let's do what we can with this place. Now we have built up a strong reputation running clinics around South Australia. We have been open for about two years and looking back I'm not so sure how we payed the rent for the first few months... No one does what we do, so we have had to create our

own industry.

When the issue of positives influences and attitudes towards Australian hip hop is brought up Shep happily relates his experiences.

Some people have preconceptions like the whole Wu-Tang-FUBU thing. There are a lot of kids out there who look hip hop or that new hip hop look who wouldn't know the first thing about hip hop. This is a bit more pure where hip hop is a form of self-expression. This sort of hip hop is more about the culture of it, you'll find that the kids aren't racist or biased, they're very open good kids. They don't get smashed, instead of fighting they will battle. It's a lot more positive than other people who are supposedly hip hop out stabbing each other, having fights for the hell of it, driving around listening to Tupac or something...the kids get more confident. Once they are comfortable it brings something out in them particularly for the kids who aren't into football or Saturday sport. They kinda want to go by their own program. This lets them express themselves and it brings them out. The expressions are raw, because you don't need anything to do it. You don't need anything to break, just your body. You just need your mind to rap. You can make a beat with your mouth and beat box.

At first many people were really cynical...someone coming in and saying "we're going to teach hip hop". We're staying true. The artists are the ones getting paid. If you want to offer and teach Hip Hop it can't be expensive because many people into it don't have money. So if you want to offer it to them it has to be

cheap, if it's cheap there's no money to be made off it, so if you're going to do something like this you have to do it because you really want to do it and you really want to help and make a difference. The workshops make us fuck all. The shop is where we pay our bills. People show support through the shop. Basically you have to be prepared to work for free and there are not many people who will do that.

**Who shows interest in your work?**

You never know. It's always different. You could be going out to a school, doing a high school workshop with ten kids or you could be out in Whyalla then move on to Port Augusta where you are teaching all Aboriginal kids. The clients are always vary sometimes you've got festivals that want us to go down there and offer something different to try out, so you meet and teach all sorts of people. Like the Royal Show or Street Active where one of our guys taught an eighty year old to skateboard. We do heaps within the scene. I DJ most nights, pretty much every hip hop show. We support a lot of young MCs and DJs by giving them spots in different shows. We do a lot of shows where we put on competitions so people can battle, there is always something.

**As ambassadors for Australian Hip Hop culture how do you present that to people not necessarily accustomed to the experience?**

There are two different scenes. You've got your mainstream which is what everyone thinks hip hop is, so when we go out and do demos we show people that that's not hip hop, this is hip hop. We have long hair and we look like Australians and this is what we do. Where as if you don't know about Australian hip hop there is no way for the commercial consumer to find out what it is about. What they know is Jay-Z and Puff Daddy, J-Lo and that's their definition of hip hop and you can't blame them for that. So when people see the raw element they wig out and it's like "this is fantastic."

These days hip hop culture extends into things like skating, not just the four traditional elements (DJing, MCing, Breaking, Graff). There is always the four elements but then there are kids who skate that are into hip hop or kids that that break who are into rock. A lot of the time we have to explain to older generations what things are, like turntablism is a actually DJing and DJing isn't the person you have at your wedding, it's actually scratching and making music with a turn table.

**Artists representing for Da Klinik:**

- Break Dance: Floor Play Crew, Nokturnal Elements, All Turn-it Lifestyles.
- Hip Hop Dance: Eatspace Dance.
- Aerosol Art: Materialism artists. Vans/Store.
- DJs: DJ Shep, David L, Butterfingers, DJ Mula.
- MCs, Rhyme and Beat box: Simplex, Delta.
- Skating: Dave Wilcocks, Adam Vakulin, Dan Ivett.

Maxim.

**Spicy Eye For The Stereotypical Guy**

## Kill Bill: Vol 1 Now Showing General Release



## Matchstick Men Now Showing General Release

This is the sort of thing to make any reviewer get butterflies - a new Quentin Tarantino film. The critically adored director, responsible for *Reservoir Dogs*, *Pulp Fiction* and *Jackie Brown*, has obviously realised that bloody and confronting screen violence is his forte and has decided to stick to what he's best at. It's a brutal hour-and-a-half to sit through, not just for the deluge of gushing blood, but also for the debasement of values. Having said that, the film is a striking opus of comic book style martial arts, a fantastic yet tragic story that will be concluded next year in *Kill Bill: Vol 2*. As frustrating as this can be, it has worked for some of the best movies and some time down the track, both sections will be restored on one DVD, so one shouldn't complain. However, it leaves you wanting so much more, so be warned.

Uma Thurman plays the Bride, the Black Mamba of the Deadly Viper Assassination Squad (the DiVAS), who was gunned down by Bill on her wedding day, along with the reverend, his wife, the bridal party and the child she was carrying. Awaking from a coma four years later, she begins to take her revenge on Bill and the other Squad members responsible for the massacre. Part of the appeal and intrigue of *Pulp Fiction* was the broken structure of storytelling and it is again utilised in *Kill Bill*. While this device is not as innovative on its second outing, the themes of sin and redemption and the general suspense are assisted nicely. Another Tarantino trademark, his fascination with depravity, is hardly forsaken here. Some of the more decadent scenes depict a nurse renting the Bride's body out to strangers during the four year coma and the murder of DiVAS member Vernita Green (Vivica A. Fox) in front of her five-year-old daughter.

The film is not without moments of smirking humour, the latter scene a prime example, where the fighting women are interrupted by the little girl, prompting the bloody, sweating combatants to hide their knives behind their backs and pretend that they are actually old friends. Delicious. It's this sort of comic violence that makes *Kill Bill* so entertaining. The bleak anime that presents the background to O-Ren Ishii (Lucy Liu) breaks up the narrative, presenting a fresh format for ultra-violence. The resulting battle between the Bride and O-Ren, aided by her Crazy 88 Fighters is spectacular. To say any more is to remove the thrill of the movie.

Uma Thurman is outstanding in this physically demanding role, with a timing that develops the dark humour to foster without affecting the intensity of the vicious fight sequences. Dressed in Bruce Lee's yellow and black jumpsuit from *Game of Death*, she punches, stabs, kicks and shoots her way through the film with such intensity that it's not easy to watch. It's interesting to note the prominence of women in this movie as well, particularly in dishing out an arse kicking. But at the end of the day, it's Tarantino's movie, a film he made to satisfy himself but that audiences will enjoy too. Why else would an old Klingon proverb precede the film? The opening line from the disembodied voice of Bill could well be Tarantino's - 'Do you find me sadistic?' The answer to this, is of course, elementary. 'Yes. But mostly for not providing us with Volume 2.'

Miss Royale

Far too often, audiences leave a cinema disappointed, usually because a film hasn't lived up to its promise. As I was taking my seat for the premiere of *Matchstick Men*, I had the feeling that this could be one of those instances.

With a powerhouse director Ridley Scott (*Alien*, *Blade Runner*, *Gladiator*) and a pair of fine actors in Nic Cage and Sam Rockwell, there was a possibility the film could have become lazy and reliant on the combined star power.

Fortunately, my instinct was completely off.

*Matchstick Men* is an excellently crafted and stylish film, telling the story of Roy Waller (Nic Cage), a con artist who discovers he has been a father for about 15 years, all while struggling to function properly due to his obsessive compulsive disorder, panic attacks, agoraphobia and a battery of other darkly hilarious neuroses. His partner in crime, Frank Mercer (Sam Rockwell), helps him not to become incapacitated, but to rip off other people through elaborate schemes - what any friend would do in a similar situation, I'm sure. The pair have a dynamic screen presence, with an energy that is a lot of fun to watch. As an aside, keep an eye on Sam Rockwell - this film, along with his performance in *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*, places him as the standout contender for the best actor this year. Even in this supporting role, he's superb.

We meet the con artists at work, with Roy struggling to make it out his front door without losing his mind, until the day they find their ultimate target. Chuck Fruchette, their new 'mark,' could be the score they've always dreamed of bagging. Frank and Roy set to task, planning their traps for Fruchette, when Roy's therapist announces to him that he's discovered that Roy's ex-wife had a daughter shortly after their divorce many years ago. At this point, the plot shifts away from the shady side of Roy's life to his familial side, which he previously did not know existed. His teenage daughter, the tearaway Angela (played by 24-year-old Alison Lohman, of *White Oleander*), provides the emotion needed for a film of this genre. As the two bond and Roy learns how to love, Angela begins to play a greater role in his life causing the two aspects of Roy's life to come into conflict, a struggle that is supremely executed in one of the best screenplays of 2003. When the Fruchette scheme falls apart, the film is at its peak, delivering staggering blows that I've been made to promise not to disclose. In other places, Angela's knack for manipulating unsuspecting strangers is a highlight, as is Roy's desperate scene at the pharmacy, pleading a chemist for urgently needed medicine. Each character has undeniable weaknesses, flaws that endear them to the audience while avoiding sentimental tripe - even the arguably redundant and potentially tacky 'one year later' epilogue is handled adroitly. Sure, the book is apparently better, but if you haven't read it, who cares?

Nic Cage continues to astonish me, with an arc of characters almost unmatched by any other actor. While he's a household name for *Gone in 60 Seconds* and *Con Air*, it's the roles in *Leaving Las Vegas*, *Raising Arizona*, *Bringing Out the Dead*, *Adaptation* and now *Matchstick Men* for which he will be most fondly remembered. And it's new territory for Ridley Scott as well, with no mind blowing effects or stunts, having 'only' characters to work with. Believe me when I tell you this is a superb movie.

Matty

## The O List

### Films Worth Seeing

- 1) Kill Bill Vol.1
- 2) Matchstick Men
- 3) Swimming Pool
- 4) Gettin Square
- 5) Japanese Story

### Video/DVD To Buy Rent

- 1) Trainspotting
- 2) The Goodies: 8 Delicious Episodes
- 3) The Life Of David Gale
- 4) Old School
- 5) Sweet Sixteen

And... five crappy films that Arnie's competition tried to use against him at the California elections

- 1) Twins
- 2) Kindergarten Cop
- 3) Junior
- 4) Last Action Hero
- 5) Pumping Iron

# The Mercury Cinema's

The Mercury Cinema is in big trouble. In little China. Too! Why you ask? Because I said so. Why? Because, specifically, they're seducing me away from my precious study time. How? Because they are showing such cool filmic stuff in the upcoming weeks, right slap bang in the middle of the oh-so-important, my-life-depends-on-it, if-I-fail-I'll-be-disowned-and-beaten/ won't-get-my-fancy-new-BMW exams. And of course, with my middle name being "Supercalifragilistprocastinationaladosciuous" (it's true, ask your Mum!) I will be going to every friggin' screening I can. And if you're anything like me (that is to say, "monster phat cool", or, in German if you prefer, "überaffengeil" as a dear cute girl now lost, once told me) you'll be heading along like me to the sounds of slaughter (courtesy of Roo Shooter) and fucking shit up large style. To see what exactly?

Launch thyself into a sub-conscious pre-cognitive neo-natal urinary time warp and you may wish to view the final instalment in the Mercury's Marnau retrospective, (Marnau being a God of film, as if you needed to ask) on Monday October 20.

Or you could do your darnedest to get along to see some of the fine selection from the Moments of Truth program, which showcases the films of seminal documentary filmmakers Albert & David Maysles. Here is the full program; cut and pasted in shameless verbatim style by a fatigue addled sub-editor who should know better.

## Getting Square

### On Dit chats to Jonathan Teplitsky

2003 has not been a kind year for Australian cinema, but Jonathan Teplitsky hopes to turn things around with his new feature *Getting Square*, starring David Wenham, Sam Worthington and Timothy Spall. "There's been a lot of disappointments at the box office," admits Teplitsky, who also made *Better Than Sex*, "but it's a combination of things. As an audience, we're not huge risk takers and we probably don't market our films very well. The trouble is that we have a propensity to churn out quirky Australian comedies, which is a pointless exercise, but that is how the so-called powers that be think you make money. I think it's a sad day when our industry's thinking about the box office only.

What is it about this film that will set it apart from other Aussie crime films? "What's good about *Getting Square* is that it inhabits its own territory. It's very different. People try to lump it, but people are lazy. Across the board, our industry is full of lazy, untalented people." It's at this point that I become a little self-conscious. "I've read so often that *Getting Square* is like *The Hard Word* and *Dirty Deeds*, but it's nothing like those films. They're both gangster films, but it's like saying *Goodfellas* is like *Get Shorty* and they're two totally different films. They happen to be in the milieu of that genre. One thing I think we're not is a genre piece. We use genre to give us a context, but the interesting thing about the films is that it's a character piece that really explores those characters and lets those characters have a relationship with the audience."

The calibre of characters in *Getting Square* is quite remarkable too. After a armed robbery opens the film, the majority of the story is told in flashbacks, beginning with the release of Barry Wirth from prison, played with great subtlety and determination by Sam

Worthington. As he avoids to fall back into his old patterns and keep his brother away from Bris-Vegas underworld boss Chicka Martin (Gary Sweet), his troublesome mate Johnny Spitieri (the radically transformed David Wenham) and inquiries by the Criminal Investigation Commission seem set on making his goal of getting square as hard as possible.

David Wenham's transformation as the feral criminal Johnny Spitieri is the highlight of the film, in what Teplitsky calls "a huge departure," playing a heroin junkie with great relish. The scene where he is formally examined by the CIC is one of the funniest moments you'll see in an Australian film, with his fixation on getting money for a bus ride home managing to confound the CIC officer making allegations. The chronically stoned Spit shows what can happen when you get caught in the cycle of crime, but his tragic character is also the most endearing. Any film with flip-flop thongs and mullets is okay in my books. "Chris Nyst has been practising law for 20 years and he has a great fondness for those people even though they're often socially unacceptable and they're criminals. He looks to find the good in people," says Teplitsky. "Particularly with Spit, I think the care and the humour have to go hand in hand. I was very conscious of not making a straight out comedy. You have to care for these people and have an empathy for them and by doing that, you make the comedy richer because it comes out of character, it's not just a gag. Even with Barry, the lingering shots of him allow the audience to engage with this young man whose morals have landed him in gaol.

Add a rocking, predominantly Australian soundtrack, and *Getting Square* is up there with the best our industry has to offer.

Matty

## springtime, swolvae schedule

Wednesday 22 October 7.30pm

*Showman* 1963 M 15+ The Maysles brother's first documentary is an unflinching portrait of Hollywood distributor-promoter and mogul in-the-making Joseph E. Levine during the commotion surrounding Sophia Loren's Oscar-winning performance for *Two Women*. Levine, the real-life inspiration behind Godard's crass film producer in *Contempt*, wheels and deals his way through daily life - surrounded by movie stars, fellow tycoons and yes-men.

*Christo's Running Fence* 1978 M 15+ When controversial artist Christo Javacheff proposed installing a 24-and-a-half-mile sheet of white-nylon fabric from the hills of California to the Pacific coast, passionate community debate erupted. For Christo, the entire process - from vision to construction - was itself the work of art, but for opponents, the impermanent \$3 million project was an absolute travesty. *Running Fence* is not only Maysles tribute to Christo's extraordinary artistic vision but the final realisation of the process, which led to a permanent visual record of the work.

Wednesday 29 October 7.30pm

*Gimme Shelter* (new 35mm print) 1970 M The seminal rock doco about the ill-fated free concert headlined by The Rolling Stones for 300,000 that descended into drug-and alcohol-fuelled mayhem at Altamont Speedway on December 6, 1969. Only four months earlier, Woodstock defined the Love Generation - now it lay in ruins on a desolate racetrack six miles outside of San Francisco.

"A horror-epic cum-snuff movie, a genuinely scary affair, a slow motion depiction of a cultural car crash which turned the dewy eyed optimism of Woodstock on its head". (Mark Kermode, Sight And Sound, 2001)

Saturday 1 November 7.30pm

*Muhammad and Larry* 1980 M 15+ Renowned boxer Muhammad Ali enters the ring with fellow legend Larry Holmes to battle for the World Heavyweight Boxing title. A captivating combination of Ali's prose, performance and conviction, creates an intimate portrait of this iconic figure of black pride and political activism.

*Grey Gardens* 1975 PG The intriguing story of the estranged relatives of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, which made headlines when it was revealed they were leading a reclusive existence in a dilapidated gothic mansion on their East Hamptons Estate. Edie and her ageing mother, Mrs Edith Bouvier Beale, are bound by a symbiotic relationship that seethes with resentment and jealousy. Adorned with exotic, extravagant outfits, Edie escapes the reality of her bizarre life by playing out childhood fantasies of becoming a Hollywood starlet. "Extraordinary. One of the oddest, most beautiful films ever". (THE LONDON SUNDAY TIMES)

Tickets are only \$9 for students and \$11 for all you other unfortunate sods. Mercury - 13 Morphett St, city, near the Jam Factory.

Also look out for more Heroic Cinema instalments to come, including *Wing Chun* starring Michelle Yeoh, whom you all lusted after in *Crouching Tiger*, you fucking morons!

Remember kids: Fuck exams, pre-determined thought patterns of success and the correct method of cabbage handling!

Eat mushrooms and live! And watch movies at the Mercury, for your sanity's sake! Look what it's done for me....mwa ha ha hahahahaha...

dan V



Freebies!

Thanks to Foster Workshop PR, we have a swag of passes for

## Matchstick Men

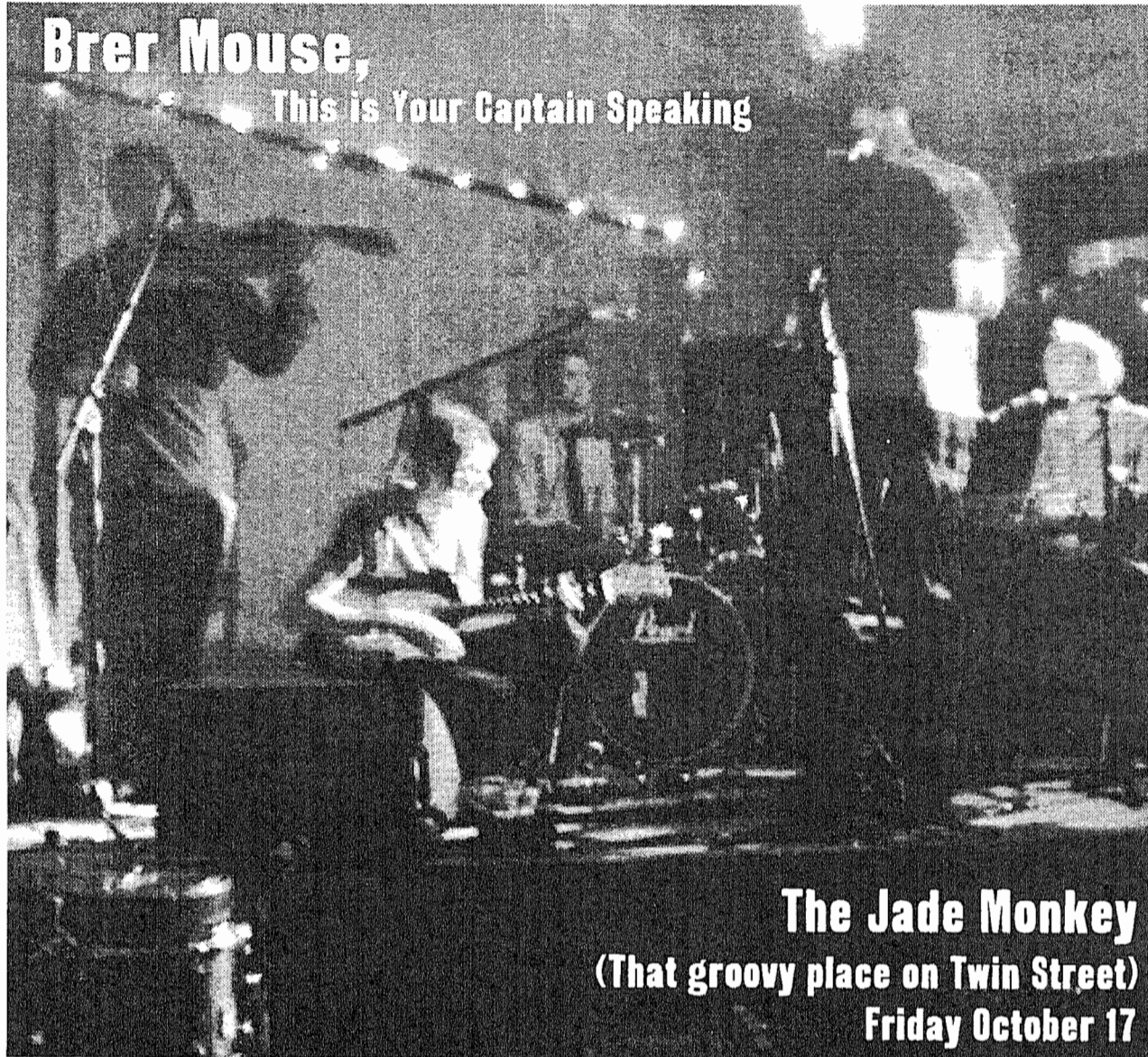
to give away.

Make your way to the On Dit office at

2pm on Wednesday

to claim your prize.

## Brer Mouse, This is Your Captain Speaking



**The Jade Monkey**  
(That groovy place on Twin Street)  
Friday October 17

I was particularly interested in checking this gig out after hearing rumours that Melbourn three-piece This Is Your Captain Speaking bore some resemblance to the likes of progressive rock legends Mogwai and Godspeed You! Black Emperor.

Unfortunately, this was not to be. TIYCS lack the kind of deafening crescendoes that would justify such comparisons. Instead, these guys prefer to hypnotise audiences with a more subtle, swirling sound which gradually progresses to a satisfying, logical conclusion. The drummer was particularly impressive - almost jazz-like in his easy relationship with the two guitarists. What impressed me most was his deft use of a miked-up typewriter at the beginning of the set. Tres trippy. These guys are definitely worth watching, heart-crushing crescendoes or not.

The highlight of the evening was Brer Mouse's performance (pictured left). These fine young gentlemen have developed into a tight outfit, particularly since their early days as The Armpods. Their sound is as haunting as ever, and lead singer Alex's eerie vocals are holding up nicely.

A brief word on Brer Mouse. A lot has been said about their often uncanny resemblance to a certain British band whose name rhymes with Schmadiohead. What, I ask, is the harm in sounding like one of the most influential bands of the last twenty years? Besides, Brer Mouse are sounding more unique by the day, particularly with the addition of a clarinet, violin and a shiny new drummer (who was disappointingly absent - but not dead, according to Alex).

Finally, a kind word about the Jade Monkey (whose people were kind enough to let us in for free). A splendid venue, where you are sure to come across more than one left-of-field musical experience. Look out for it in future gig guides.

Stanley



## Jimmy T's Gig Guide

The Adelaide University Bands' Association Party Night is this Thursday in the UniBar! It should be a rocking night, free entry and Pint for Schooners!

7pm  
Cool, chilled out chicks Fem Sex Shu

8pm  
Progressive rockers Loemax

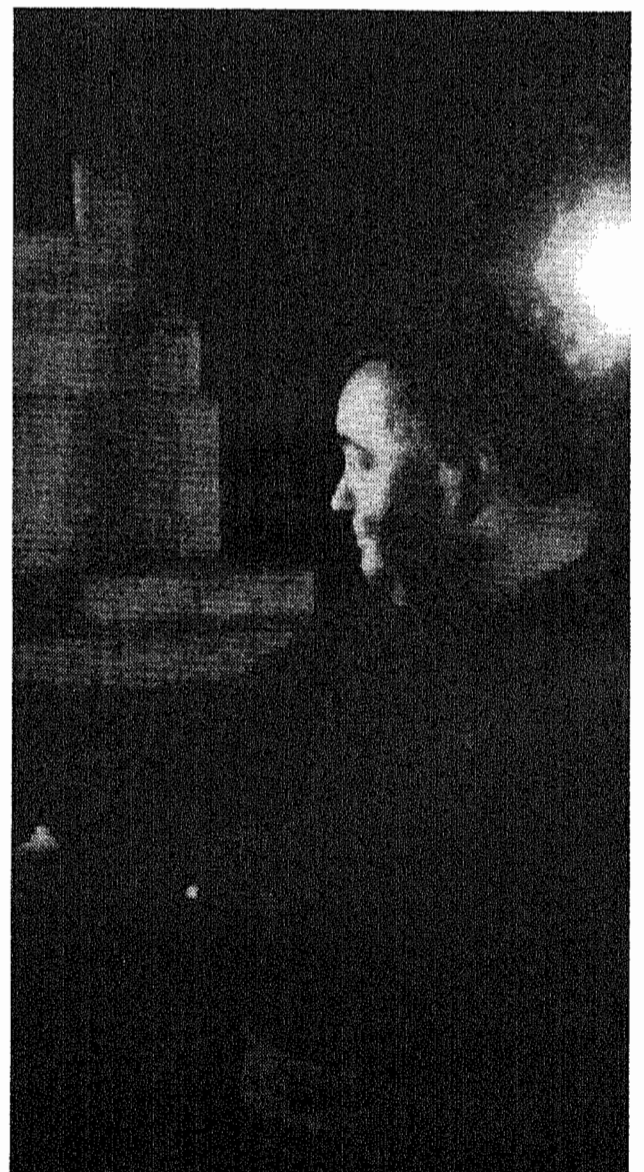
9pm  
Great Days, a mix between Leonard Cohen and 80's Pink Floyd

10pm  
Wolf And Cub, the best and most experimental garage rockers in Adelaide

11pm  
Old School metal heads Paleface

The Icons and Dexter Jones will be playing at the Rhino Room this Thursday night. Be there, or be someplace else.

Be sure to catch the dude outside Hungry Jacks doing his unique Casio thing every afternoon until five.



# Local Reviews

## Dear Local Music Enthusiasts,

I am aware the glowing disposition of these reviews seems like I've just smoked a large bag of ganja and reported on them in a warped state of mind. This, however, is not true. The quality of these releases has made my holidays enormously enjoyable, so read on and take note 'cause these bands are absolutely fuckoff and in the forefront of Australian music.

*Jimmy Trash*

### The Cat Empire

#### Tapes, Breaks And Out-Takes

Two Shoes

The Cat Empire are the coolest band in Australia. Those who missed their recent tour here missed out severely; their two gigs were exceptional. For those unacquainted, The Cat Empire play a high octane mix of shady gangster jazz, reggae, dub, traditional jazz, acid jazz and hip hop, and the end result is the most funky, dancy rhythms imaginable. This album is a compilation of recordings from the past three years and live inserts of various gigs from here and in Great Britain. The songs on this album are perfect party and dancing music, but the glory of these recordings comes out from chilling out and really listening to it. The beautiful musicianship and thrilling compositions are a sheer delight, and the lyrics are deep and poignant as hell; each song has its own accompanying story, be it of the joys of smoking pot and skating around with your friends to mysterious nights of drinking with a gypsy queen when "the morning is a thousand dreams away". It is also enormously gratifying to hear The Duke's 'It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing' belted out in the middle of a live song with a reggae dance feel. The Cat Empire hold the greatest feel for the emotions of what they are playing; the horns and voice on 'The Lost Song' feel like they have been plucked from the haunted graves of Dizzy Gillespie and Bob Marley respectively, and the electric piano solos on 'Song For The Day' could lift a manic depressive on their most foul day. Just go and buy it. No one is better than this band, and you can be sure they are going to be absolutely fucking huge.

### Scissor Pretty

#### Slow Down

Slow Down removes Scissor Pretty even further from their 80's post-punk sound, and is almost Beatles-esque in the way they have managed to balance pop sensibility with artistic integrity. This album sways from being beautifully ethereal to positively euphoric, and the instrumentation similarly differs between just acoustic guitar and piano to loud, whole band compositions. Scissor Pretty never seem to rise to a fever pitch, yet vocalist Melissa Iocco's voice is haunting and in control, and the minor key musings and lyrics are quite atmospheric and distressing. My favourite track was 'Milkdud', a comparatively rampant post punk song that lifts the spirits of *Slow Down*. Overall *Slow Down* is a pretty bleak sounding, high quality pop album, well worth getting into if you like Siouxsie Sioux or Brunatex,

### Muscle Car

#### Single As Usual

Mondo Bizarro Records

This latest release from self-proclaimed Adelaide glam-slam heroes Muscle Car is quite different from their previous releases. They have shed some of their Motor Head influences and have partly incorporated a more melodic stance, the result being 'Single As Usual' sounds like The Ataris (whom they supported in a massive show not that long ago), injected with bovine testosterone and cattle-prodded into a chaotic frenzy. While not quite as heavy, this album rocks as hard as they ever have, with anthemic, sing along choruses, awesome air guitar solos, and plenty of songs about girls.

The album's single, 'Single As Usual' is possibly the poppiest Muscle Car ever get, with a few harmonies and great solos over the top of choruses, giving it a lot more dancing capacity rather than Muscle Car's usual head banging sound. 'You Wanted Everything' has a really cool and well-placed sample from *Degrassi High* (I think), but the absolute highlight of the album is 'Hell Yeah, Let's Rock!'. This song is a pedal-to-the-metal flat out rock song with awesome female vocals by Elea Logan, and is one of the best songs to come out of Adelaide this year.

### Riff Random

#### Random Love EP

Shock

I still haven't made my mind up about these Melbourne garage lads. Musically, they are loud, rough and seemingly 'perfect' for the next big things in Australian garage. They are very occasionally political, ie you hear "just blame capitalism" in 'See The Light' and the word "trash" is in just about every song. So yes, they are awesome sounding, but they just seem to be the perfect incarnation of all that is cool in 'New Rock' today. I have heard the single 'There Is No Love' just start to get thrashed on Triple J, which is plausible because it's a mean-assed rock song, but really, they are:

- 1) Snotty and angry like The Vines
  - 2) Nihilistic like The Strokes
  - 3) Distorted and wild like The Yeah Yeah Yeahs
- If you are into garage then you will love it.

## Local Album of the Week

### The Bleeding Hearts

#### S/T

Salvage Music

I haven't been able to get this EP out of my CD player for weeks now. The Bleeding Hearts play maximum volume garage rock'n'roll, with a slight Detroit influence, yet they stray well clear of any form of stereotypes in a market full of repeated riffs and images. Their music is both distinct and infectious, using a mix of straight out power chords, slower, harsher guitar work and noise to make this an interesting recording. The lyrics are catchy, political and intelligent, demonstrated in the title of the first track, 'The Meek Shall Inherit The Family Estate'. Lead singer Sandy Cenin's rough voice is perfect for this style of raw rock, and in 'Critic' and 'Bitchin' the whole band come together to produce an all out assault on the listener. The best song on the album, however, is the slower and more minimalist, seven-minute epic 'Backgammon And The Orthodox Church', a song that somehow randomly juxtaposes each of these. I say a lot of shit in my section, but I can't help but to say this is the best recording to come out of Adelaide in years. I still haven't been able to see these guys perform but I bet they would be bitchin'.



After hearing Riff Random, even the bratty kid from Everybody Loves Raymond wanted to play rock and roll.

## A FORTNIGHT OF MUSIC WITH PROF BOOTY

Being at that sharp and pointy end of the year it's time to get out of the house while you still can. My advice for the fortnight is...

### Shoeshine at The Gov. 8pm Saturday October 25

Featuring live sets from Drum-n-Beats mastermind:

Amoeba who is a regular act at Wind-Up, Strange Days (Red Light District), and his compadre Patchwerk who trades in a unique blend of Jazz, Funk and Break-Beat with a House sensibility - makes for a very accessible sound. Find yourself at Shoeshine once, and you'll probably be a regular.

Keeping your eye on next summer's line up for the Big Day Out.

They may have lost the prowess of A Perfect Circle, but the line-up for next year barely felt the key change with so many "The" bands on the list.

So if you haven't had your ear to the ground the show as-so-far includes The Strokes, The Dandy Warhols, The Flaming Lips, The Mars Volta, The Datsuns, The Hoodoo Gurus, Jet (why don't they have "The" in front of their name?), Basement Jaxx, Peaches, Gerling, Aphex Twin, Luke Vibert, Black Eyed Peas, Magic Dirt, Something For Kate, Trey, The Butterfly Effect, Downsyde, and in all that excitement Metallica was nearly forgotten. God forbid!

Stay tuned for more news on the summer touring action in our next edition

xxProf.



## ENDORPHIN TICKETS TO GIVE AWAY!

Thanks to Tim Standing at the Governor Hindmarsh Hotel, we have FOUR tickets to see Endorphin on Saturday, November 1. To get your grubby little fingerprints all over a ticket, just come down to On Dit this Friday at 2.30pm sharp!

## THE STROKES

That's right! Those retro rock posterboys are back with a shiny new album, and this time they've brought a stonking great shitload of merchandise with them!

If you fancy getting your mitts on a special limited edition T-shirt and a copy of *Room on Fire*, all you need to do is explain to us why you are indeed the saddest Strokes buff this side of the Big Apple. Send your answers to [ondit@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:ondit@adelaide.edu.au) along with your name and contact number before Thursday October 23 to be in to win. Runners up will receive one of three exclusive Strokes singles.



The official University of Adelaide launch of The Strokes' new album will be held this Friday October 24. Not entire sure where, mind you. We suspect it'll be in the Unibar...



# unirecords

## Album of the week



### Stereo Total

#### Party Anticonformiste

Valve/Consume

Although I'm all for rock music, and at the risk of damaging my friendship with Jimmy Trash, this revival of garage has run its course. For people who share my disdain for the current policy of churning out anything sounds like it was recorded in a shoebox, Stereo Total may well be the antidote you're looking for. With a sound not unlike Cibo Matto, this trashy sugary-punk outfit has given their synthesisers a fair workout, with no less than 30 tracks of electronic bliss. With members from France and Germany, I'm sure there's some philosophy in their madness, no doubt something about transmitting consciousness through computers, but at the heart of it all, the hysteric, eclectic and shambolic mess of sound is intriguing. At the same time, the likelihood that this album will be listened to over and over again is not high. While I love their often

grating interpretation of electropunk, it could easily be hated and justifiably so.

Nearly every lyric is in either German or French and thus incomprehensible, so if you dug Not From There's sound, this could be an album for you.

'Supergirl' is about the most comic-book track you'll ever encounter, the hyperactive vocals bound to make you laugh. 'Touche-Moi' is based upon and features a sample of Tommy Roe's 50s classic 'Dizzy', demonstrating their diverse influences, which also probably include the likes of Kraftwerk, Shonen Knife and Beck. While heavily reliant on fuzzy riffs, robotic synths and frantic female vocals, you'll also find surf guitar and sitars ('Shoen Von Hinten'), loops and atmospheric beats ('Cosmonaute') and 12 bar blues rock (LA, CA, USA).

But with song titles like 'Milky Bar Bourgeois', 'Comicstripsteasgirl' and 'I Love You, Ono' how could you not go for something like this? I recommend you listen to it for yourself, but with so many songs, you know you'll be getting value for money.

Matty

# On dit

## Album of the week

### THE RAVEONETTES



### The Raveonettes

#### Chain Gang of Love

Columbia

"This Is Whiplash Rock'n'Roll" proclaims the cover art of Chain Gang of Love. As the concept-album renaissance moves into a new gear, painfully cool two-piece bands begin to populate the mainstream and pop classicism drenches our airwaves, dawn The Raveonettes. This Danish duo has let loose an album recorded entirely in B-flat major. Opening track 'Remember' sets the pace with calm doo-wop riffs and devastating lyrics before moving into the first single (and one of the album's highlights) 'That Geat Love Sound'. Dripping with fuzzy feedback and classic pop influences The Raveonettes deliver a cohesive record of infectious rock'n'roll. 'Heartbreak Stroll' takes Chain Gang of Love to a new dimension with its combination of Beach Boys-esque melody and punk sensibilities. In

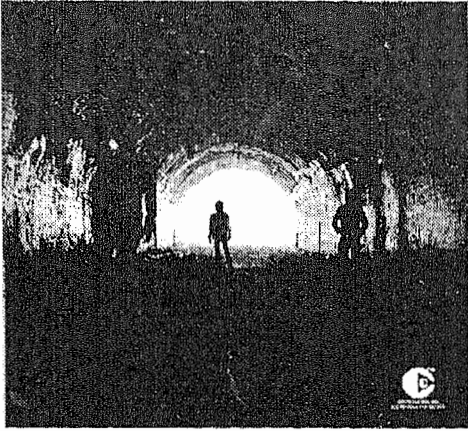
truth The Raveonettes are a package; the film-comic artwork, channeling of their brilliant influences, a catwalk look and a new music genre "Whiplash Rock". Chain Gang of Love is destined to be my soundtrack to the summer. And as singer Sune Rose Wagner delivers with the album's final lyric of the record, "What a trip".

Gaz

## The 2003 Deadly Awards

The Deadlys are an annual awards ceremony to celebrate the achievements of indigenous performers and sportspeople. The Deadly winners of 2003 were recognised at a ceremony at the Sydney Opera House on Monday, October 13. And the winners were...

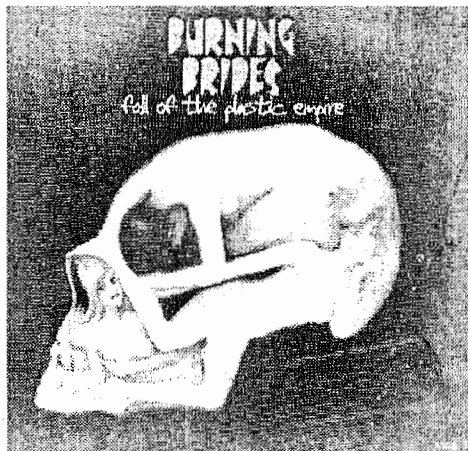
Female artist of the year: **Christine Anu**  
Male artist of the year: **Troy Cassar-Daley**  
Country artist of the year: **Todd Williams**  
Band of the year: **Nokturnl**  
Album of the year: **Shakaya, The Way You Make Me Feel**  
Single of the year: **Wilcannia Mob, 'Down River'**  
Sportswoman of the year: **Cathy Freeman**  
Sportsman of the year: **Anthony Mundine**  
Best female actor: **Deborah Mailman**  
Best male actor: **Aaron Pedersen**



**Black Rebel Motorcycle Club**  
*Take Them On, On Your Own*  
Virgin

Two years ago B.R.M.C turned heads with their debut self-titled album. With their latest release *Take Them On, On Your Own*, they're set to build on their existing success. Somewhat ironically starting the album off with the track 'Stop', B.R.M.C create a gritty atmosphere as Hayes wails 'we don't like you, we just want to try you'. This darker mood is carried onwards, with tracks such as 'Six Barrel Shotgun', 'U.S Government' and 'Generation' representing the underlying themes of this album. 'Shade Of Blue' is a personal favourite, with its swaggering mellow rhythm, as is 'We're All In Love', which demands to be played at maximum volume and will probably be the cause of my deafness in later years...Although B.R.M.C haven't pushed their musical boundaries much further beyond those set previously, in this case it's not a bad thing, as what they do, they do extremely well.

gevad



**Burning Brides**  
*Fall of the Plastic Empire*  
V2 Records

Although sporting one of the worst band names in recent memory, Burning Brides have produced the record grunge loyalists have been craving since the mid-90's. The Brides make rock music in the vein of their illustrious heroes, including Nirvana, the Stooges and Sonic Youth. The album rollicks through chunky riffs, guitar solos accompanied by Dimitri Coats' screeching choruses. Among other standouts is the epic 'If I'm A Man' which could be plucked straight out of the Tumbleweed back catalogue. Gliding effortlessly from the Pistols-esque 'Glass Slipper' to blues fest 'Stabbed in the Back of the Heart' and back to metal head heaven on 'Elevator'

borders on genius. The backbone of the Brides sound is its heavily drenched guitar that reminds us just how much noise a 3-piece can make. Never a quiet moment and never an easy pace may well be the Plastic Empire's only weakness as the listener is bombarded with 37 minutes of grunge-rock. This is certainly one out of the box.

Gaz



**Muse**  
*Absolution*  
Festival Mushroom

How can a three-piece rock band make such a monumental sound? The question was first posed when 2001's magnificent *Origin of Symmetry* exploded onto the scene with twice the force than the still mighty *Showbiz* of a couple of years earlier to propel Muse into a genre of their own.

Well once again the arguably pretentious histrionics have been completely overshadowed by a dramatic, tortured veil of sound with such a sense of urgency one can be forgiven for believing Matt Bellamy as he wails: "This is the end of the world" on the unforgettable opener (and beautifully titled) *Apocalypse Now*, accompanied threateningly by Bellamy's stomping piano.

Unbelievably, *Absolution* is even bigger than *Origin of Symmetry* and more importantly, it is also better. Chris Wolstenholme's driving bass is out in force, while Dominic Howard seems to have upgraded his already abundant percussory talents

to take centre stage on several occasions throughout the record.

But the highlight of the album, and Muse's greatest creation yet, belongs to 'Bellamy'. Perfectly showcasing his undeniable piano prowess, 'Butterflies & Hurricanes' is a simply breathtaking wild ride that also provides a surreal example of the frenzied frontman's now trademark falsetto. And let's not forget this chap also plays a mean guitar!

The very next track, 'The Small Print' delivers another furious highlight, driven by Wolstenholme's heavy drum-work, and the internet-only first single, the largely metal 'Stockholm Syndrome' provides us with possibly Muse's heaviest work to date. Throw in a few of the more subtle tracks like the chilling finale, 'Ruled By Secrecy', and you have a cohesive yet diverse record that will surely be a contender for album of the year.

Lachy

**ESSENTIAL CLUBBING**

SPRING 2003  
WARNER

WARNING  
MODERATE Impact

*Essential Clubbing Spring 2003*  
Various  
Warner

Dance music in my opinion is very good when real instruments are used, when old songs are remade (except for DJ Sammy) and when the artist does more than put a beat to a few sound effects, and it is good to see that DJs are catching on to what people like me desire to hear. There are a multitude of great tracks on this album, ranging from Bootsy Collins to the likes of Gerling. There is a real mix of pop, underground and alternative dance tracks on *Essential Clubbing*, and this results in extremely varied styles and a very complete album. Contained are plenty of songs to dance to, to strut to, to make your move to (Robbie Rivera's 'Sex') and simply to nod your head to. Great dance music is not restricted to the clubs now as this compilation satisfies all areas of dance music. Well worth a listen.

Tito



**Monica**  
*After The Storm*  
J Records/ BMG

Monica's third album features the regular superstar producers and guest cameos, but *After the Storm* is a patchy affair. The Missy Elliot produced first single 'So Gone' is top notch R'n'B, but 'Breaks my Heart' and 'Hurts the Most' are forgettable. It's not the quality of the production or Monica's vocal ability that let's *After the Storm* down, but the songs themselves which are often clichéd and thin. 'I Wrote This Song' deals with the true story of the suicide of a former boyfriend, but isn't very successful or catchy. Things pick up on the Rodney

Jenkins produced 'Ain't Gonna Cry No More', who produced her duet with Brandy 'The Boy Is Mine'. 'Go To Bed Mad' with Tyrese is a nice slow jam, but certainly isn't as catchy as 'Angel of Mine' from her previous album. Closing with the A Tribe Called Quest sampling 'So Gone Remix' featuring Busta Rymes proves what Monica can do with a good song. It's disappointing to say, but the lack of strong singles as seen on her previous efforts, makes *After the Storm* pretty forgettable.

Glitz Mullet



**Various**  
*Just because I'm a Woman*  
- The Songs of Dolly Parton  
EMI

Okay, let's see if we can get through this review without making reference to giant plastic boobs.

Say what you will about her, but you'll be hard pressed to find a more influential female country singer/songwriter than Dolly Parton. *Just because I'm a Woman* is testament to the respect she commands in the country music industry (equalled only by the amount of ridicule directed at her from places other than Tennessee). With the likes of Kasey Chambers, Sinead O'Connor, Melissa Ethridge and Norah Jones, this is more than a bumpkin pop tribute album. It's a celebration of strong women who aren't ashamed to be seen as a little bit country.

Kasey Chambers' brooding rendition of 'Little Sparrow' is a highlight, as is Sinead O'Connor's surprisingly country version of 'Dagger Through the Heart'. For me, the opening track, Alison Krauss' bluegrass / honkytonk cover of '9 to 5', together with relative unknown Mindy Smith's 'Jolene' make the album. If you're still having doubts, listen to Sinead: "Some people kind of laugh when you say you're in to Dolly Parton. But she's a fucking genius. And what's more, she's paying her own damn bills!"

Stan

*Sorry!*

There is just not enough room for all of the CD reviews that have been written this week, but we promise there will be more to come next edition.

Love,

*On Ditty*

## Volunteer Eco-Researchers Wanted

If you are a third year or postgrad student in:

- Ecology
- Environmental Biology
- Botany & Zoology
- Geography
- Geology
- Environment Science/Studies

And you want to help protect our great wilderness areas:

### Then we need your help!

We are looking for people to assist in doing small scale (desktop) research on particular issues relevant to our campaigns to protect South Australian wilderness. Most jobs are answering one-off questions (eg. How old is that Spinifex? What impact will this act have on that species? How does this species migrate?). Timetable is flexible, and we are also happy to discuss making larger research topics into academic projects.

There is no pay, but your research will contribute to a campaign to protect some of the best natural areas in South Australia.

For further information, contact Dr Greg Ogle, TWS SA Campaign Coordinator:  
greg.ogle@wilderness.org.au

### AU Film Society

WEEK 3 - Thursday 23rd October  
Union Cinema, 7pm

Stanley Kubrick's  
**Lolita**  
(153 mins)

Middle-aged novelist Humbert Humbert rents a room in Charlotte Haze's house after he falls passionately in love with her daughter Lolita. There are three slight problems, though - one, Charlotte is madly in love with him (unrequited, needless to say); two, Lolita is only fourteen; three, there's a very peculiar figure by the name of Clare Quilty who keeps popping up in the most unexpected places (and sporting equally unexpected accents), who seems to have a similarly unhealthy interest in Lolita... Need more really be said? [www.imdb.com/title/tt0056193/](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0056193/)

Film Society membership is only \$3 for Term 4. All films free for members (unless otherwise noted)

#### Friends of Kennion

### Rock 'n Roll Fundraiser

featuring

### Drew Cornell & the Belairs

When:

8 November, 2003, 8 - 12pm

Where:

The Irish Club, 11 Carrington Street,  
Adelaide

Cost:

\$15 per head

BYO basket supper

### HEY!

We need a HOUSEMATE in a hurry.

Like to live in a SWEET house in Dulwich for just \$70 a week, with a hippy and a funky bar chick. One male, one female and YOU! No lease, just a bond. So close to city, busses and shops.

If you need a place to live and play, plus have a sense of humour and tolerance then PLEASE call Paul on 0422 264 379 now to come have a look.

For bookings contact Mick Brock on 8344 7277. Tickets also available at the door.

# FREE BOOZE!

THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE NOT IMAGINING IT...THE SAUA IS GIVING AWAY FREE BOOZE!

COMPLETE THIS COUPON AND DROP IT INTO THE SAUA RECEPTION TO WIN FREE BOOZE!

JUST IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN IT YET -  
FREE BOOZE! FREE BOOZE! FREE BOOZE! FREE  
BOOZE! FREE BOOZE! FREE BOOZE! FREE BOOZE!



I \_\_\_\_\_ WOULD LIKE

TO ENTER THE DRAW FOR THE FREE BOOZE! MY

STUDENT NUMBER IS \_\_\_\_\_

AND I CAN BE CONTACTED ON:

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

WATCH OUT FOR DRAW RESULTS!

## My Mother

by Dylan Coleman

*My mother's skin smells like rain drenched mallee scrub  
earth breaking drought.*

*I cling to the bough of her leg,  
arms tightly wrapped, face nuzzled  
into her thigh.*

*She is strong and grounded.*

*Her roots run deep into this land,  
golden with its skin of dry waving wheat  
beckoning harvest in a good  
year.*

*Her fringes of wild mallee defiant in the knowledge of  
'being',*

*always have,  
always will,  
that no harvest can reap,  
because it belongs to something more,  
something far beyond  
skin deep.*

*Her layers of sandstorms wash over my mind in  
thundering resonance*

*and her memories fall upon me  
like rain touching dry lips.*



# EDUCATION RAILLY

**STOP THE GOVERNMENT'S  
REGRESSIVE ATTACKS ON  
EDUCATION:**

- Stop 2000 South Australians from loosing a place at University
- Stop cuts to SA's accessibility to education & economic growth
- Stop unregulated increases in Uni fees
- Stop 50% of students having to pay full fees (up to \$100,000 per degree!)
- Stop Attacks on Student Representation & Services
- Stop 5-year cap on studying & cuts to life-long learning

## HELP SAVE YOUR FUTURE SAVE THE FUTURE OF S.A.

Join in the Public Education Rally November 8th.

Meeting at 1pm at the Colonel Light statue,

Light's Vision, North Adelaide.

For more information, please email  
[sarah.hanson@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:sarah.hanson@adelaide.edu.au),  
or, phone Sarah Hanson-Young  
on (08) 8303 5406