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ISSUE 2

ISSUE 2

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# Hustle Edition

FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T SEEN IT, AND THOSE WHO WON'T FORGET IT



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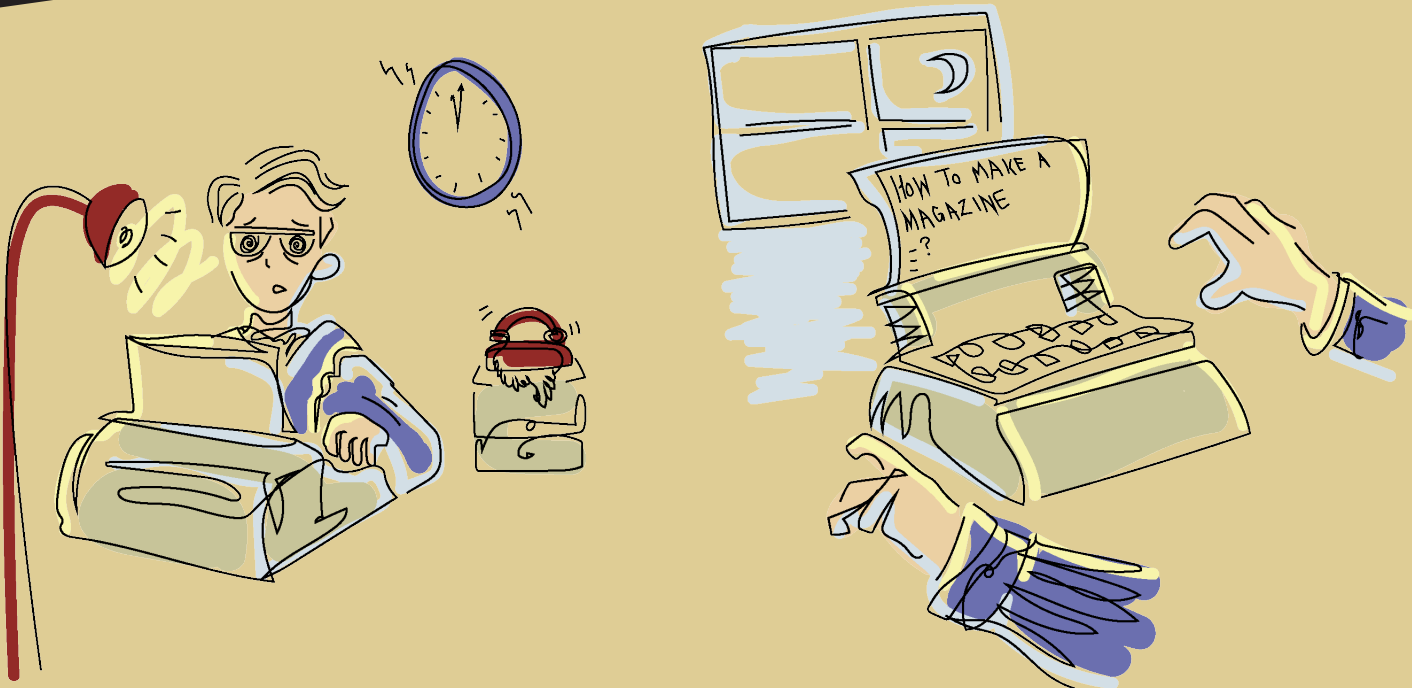
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# Editorial



KIERAN PANUI & KALA BURGESS



Time does fly; the remains of the O-week shenanigans are dying down around campus, and we've gauged a collective sense of "oh shit, we finally have to do our assignments" is in the air. Back for Craccum round two to enlighten you, we've decided.

We know it is the highlight of your week ;) Turning up to Uni on the first day, and woah, we've never seen so many people actually

turning up! Well, we know that's going to change...very soon. No, but I hope you guys keep that up. It's probably good for you. (It is.) So we have brought you.... Drumroll, please.... The Hustle edition. This is a helpful guide for you guys, who most likely need to hustle some way or another to survive the semester. Whether it's making more money, reducing the money spent, or saving time.

Firstly, We're very proud to note one particular article: an Ode from our own latua Felagai Taito dedicated to the late MP and educator Fa'anānā Efeso Collins, a piece that we think you'll agree captures the life of a brilliant politician and community leader.

So, is hustle all about making money, or does it go beyond that? We believe that hustle is a mindset, a lifestyle, and survival skill. Look at us; we're all grifters carrying on the legacy of Craccum since 1927. Journalism is still alive and well as you are reading this right now. We want to deliver the best articles to you and be your guide to successfully living out your full potential as grifters/hustlers.

It is filled with helpful tips and guides which you MUST read. Uh-huh, if you want to know how to make money or save time, YOU MUST KEEP READING.

Hustle your way through life, but be careful; don't get hustled. (we don't want the extra stress in our lives being scammed.)

The multiple hobbies, we start thinking that this could be the "thing", and that leads you to believe, "I could totally sell this," when in reality, no, you're not actually going to sell this; you don't have the time or energy to put into this. At Least that's the case with me (Kala). I have endless small business/side hustle ideas but never act on them. Wait, as I was writing this, I just realized that I'm just scared of failure. Well,

that's something I can work out later, but first, this Craccum edition.







# From the Prez

Kia ora koutou katoa,

It is my pleasure to write my first President's column for you this year in your student magazine Craccum! On behalf of your student association and my team, I would like to welcome you to the University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau.

My name is Alan Shaker and I have the privilege of being your Student Body President this year at the Auckland University Students' Association (AUSA). AUSA does three key things: Student Voice, Student Support, and Student Experience. Student Voice is about representing the voice of 46,000 students on the highest decision-making committees at the University. Student Support is about providing support for our students, when and where they need it. Whether it be through our financial hardship grants, our free, independent and confidential advocacy service, or through our safe spaces for students - we are here to support you! Lastly, Student Experience is the cool s\*\*t we do! Whether it be O-Week, a party on Alfred Street, pub quizzes and bingos in Shadows (proudly owned by AUSA), or regular themed weeks - we are here to make sure your University experience is like no other!

To introduce myself a little bit, I recently graduated with a BA/BSc (majors in History, Politics, and Exercise Sciences). I am currently in my postgraduate studies, training to become a high school history teacher. I also served as the AUSA President in 2023, and prior to that, I was the Education Vice-President for two years - so this is my fourth year being involved with AUSA.

As President, my job is to lead our wonderful and diverse Executive team to make sure the student association is heading in the right direction and best serving YOU! I am incredibly privileged to be in my role, but I am even more privileged to see the hard mahi that the committed team at AUSA do for our students on a day to day basis.

My advice to you during your University journey would be to get involved as much as you can! Step out of your comfort zone and sign up for the clubs that interest you. Get involved in the amazing student life here. University life can be very short, so my best piece of advice to any new students would be to get involved as much as possible! These can be the best few years of your life...

You can sign up to become an AUSA member at the AUSA House. With your membership sticker, you get discounts at the two student-owned investments we own on campus (UBIQ & Shadow's) - cheap textbooks and cheap beer, perfect combo! And even better, the more money these entities make, the more money is likely to come back into AUSA to spend back directly on student initiatives

This year, with a Curriculum Transformation and Student Voice Framework being implemented there is no doubt the University of Auckland will have a busy year! Make no mistake, AUSA will be doing our best to ensure that the University keeps students as the #1 priority across all of these exciting developments.

Don't forget, my job as AUSA President is to represent you! I have an open door policy, so if you want to pop into the AUSA House, come in and have a yarn! Similarly, if you have any suggestions for AUSA you are more than welcome to flick me an email on [president@ausa.org.nz](mailto:president@ausa.org.nz).

Be safe, be kind, and enjoy yourselves!

Best,

Alan Shaker

Your Student Prez





# YOUR BENEFITS WERE CUT

## ...AND YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?



ALAN WU

### I prefer to see the train coming when it hits me.

On February 20th, the Social Security (Benefits Adjustment) and Income Tax (Minimum Family Tax Credit) Amendment Bill reached its third reading in the House and assented the following day. This bill has been one of the major points of interest for the government and has received significant dialogue in the lead-up to the 2023 election.

The Minister of Social Development, Louise Upston, clarified that the purpose of this amendment is aligned with the government's belief that a "...job is the best way for New Zealanders to get ahead." The amendment should support national fiscal sustainability, strengthen real incomes (income adjusted for inflation), and "...reduce the number of children in benefit-dependent households."

#### Your benefits will continue to increase.

Although a little reluctant, she did confirm the MSD had forecasts for increases in children in poverty in the near future. (We approached the Green Party for comment on the amendment's relation to students and if we could reference some of their forecast sources, but they were not able to respond in time.) Upston's justifications for this amendment don't seem unreasonable. After all, she herself had been on a benefit. It seems to be a somewhat justifiable middle-ground, with dependent students caught in the crossfire.

Well, what about Jobseeker Support benefits? This part was arguably more interesting than social benefits. With roughly 40,000 young people under 25 years old currently on the Jobseeker benefit, UoA students would be dying to hear about the effects of this change on themselves. MSD statistics from December 2023 supported the claims made by Prime Money-Saver, Christopher Luxon. Sanctions (a reduction in benefits) have been increasingly issued since December 2020 for a mixture of clients not attending appointments, and failure

to prepare for work, both reasons Luxon had given for introducing obligations with increased strictness. Additionally, if you were me, you would have understood the benefit to be a temporary and transitional one. If that were the case, you would be surprised to find statistics available for clients who are "Work Ready" and have remained on the benefit for over 10 years. Despite the commotion made from announcements, no benefits are cut. There will be greater vigilance placed on clients, to ensure the proper compliance is taking place, at a more regular pace. Contrary to media statements, you will still maintain your benefit payments, with CPI adjustment and provided you are compliant to your benefit's new expectations.

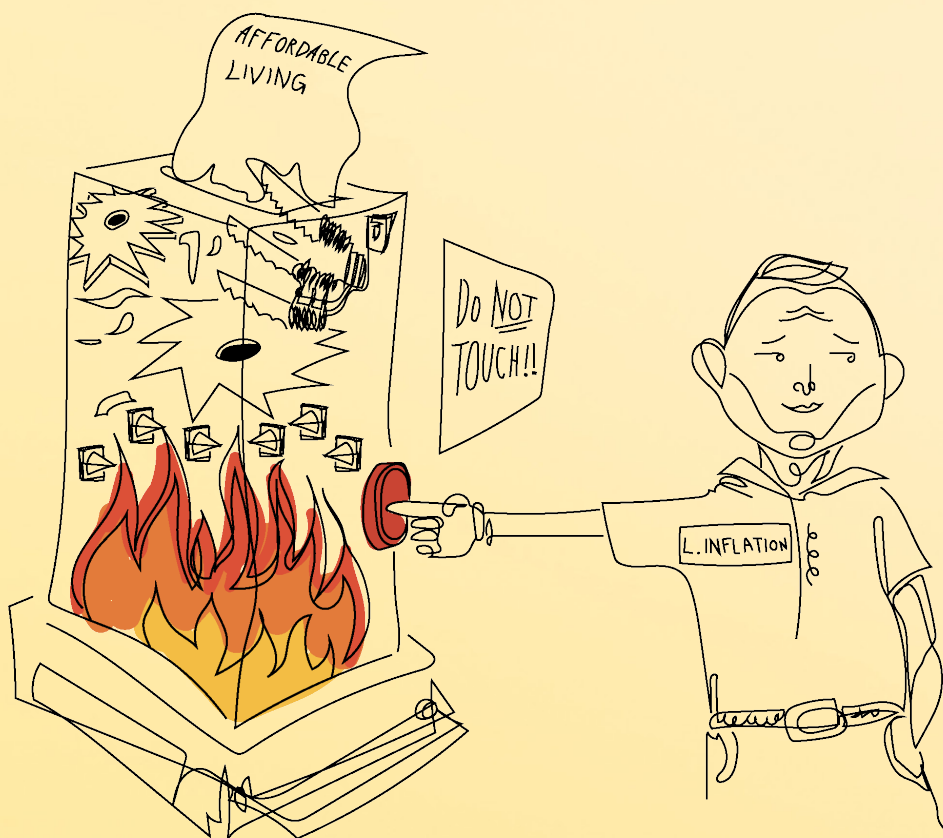
## Over \$500,000,000 Borrowed By Students For Living Costs

In 2021, nearly 60% of the 146,994 borrowers relied on their student loans to pay for their living costs. This number was well over half a billion dollars. This isn't surprising when you turn around to get to know your friends and classmates (32% of our student population comes from a "constrained economic background"). Sticking in line with this issue's hustle theme, the news team at Craccum follows a report immediately by asking yourself:

"Why am I studying my degree?"

Debt, in the end, is still debt. Is your choice of study (including your reason for borrowing) an investment into your financial future or simply something for pleasure or personal interest? The muttered truth between classmates is that many of us entered university without a plan.

Some of us have made great sacrifices, moving to Auckland from faraway places like Canterbury, with goals we're willing to go through hardship to achieve. But some of us need to be more honest with ourselves and question whether we are making a real investment into our future lives. No one can make that decision for you except for yourself.





# Wages Have Lost 9% Of Its Purchasing Power in 2 years

*The Hustle theme with a personal anecdote...*

In 2022, I spent my first year out of high school living alone, studying part-time and working roughly 22 hours. I received no benefit, and the minimum wage was \$21.20. With an income of roughly \$390 after-tax, I spent about \$210 on rent and utilities, \$60 on transportation, and \$40 was my weekly food budget (totalling \$330) I had about \$80 after expenses were paid for, which I placed most

into an emergency fund.

So what's my secret to hustling while living alone? I worked two jobs and used public transport to travel extensively, despite the long hours. I often picked up extra work on the side to get extra cash. Fortunately, the chefs at one of my jobs took pity on me, which helped me keep my food expenses low. Above all, I lived incredibly frugally. My homemade meals were simple, low-quality foods high in carbohydrates to get me through the day. I often saved up a week in advance to take my girlfriend out to a modest lunch, and I did not personally spend money on myself.

I'm not going to glamorise that period; it was really difficult. The question of whether we should go through hardship like that, struggling to pay bills, and keep up with university, is an entirely different story. What I can tell you from my experience is that this

was difficult but doable. Your experience will be very different from mine, but what you will share is having to go through many hardships to make your goals possible. Don't let the outside noise distract or demoralise you from what you need to do; more recently, we can't wait for help to keep ourselves afloat.

Take that job with horrible hours but give you the money to cover rent. Sell off some of your old books and clothes, because you must pay off an unexpected expense. We'll figure it out after each step. Until then, what happens in a building at the bottom of the North Island is irrelevant to your life; you are in control of how you respond to the world around you. No matter how hard, there is always an option that allows you to get through the adversity you are facing.

## GETTING HUSTLED BY TRAINS



TREVOR PRONOSO

Between Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th of February, multiple cancellations of train services occurred throughout Auckland's rail network. Since the beginning of 2023, it appears that roughly 15% of Auckland's 500 train services are regularly cancelled. Radio New Zealand reported that nineteen trains had been cancelled on the morning of 14 February, the last day of summer school exams, due to "overheating tracks." The weather temperature on the day had been 25°, although Auckland Transport had reported temperatures of 48° in "certain parts of the track."

Even before the recent disruptions in February, train services being flat-out shut down and unavailable throughout early January negatively affected students attending summer school. With classes starting on January 8th (some as early as January 4th), the Eastern Line's closure and subsequent reopening on January 15th have left some students within that 1-2-week period reasonably frustrated at the loss of a vital transport option. For students like Samuel, a second-year Civil Engineering student who took Korean courses during summer school, taking the train over any other available public transport is preferable and much more comfortable. "Going (from Panmure) through Ellerslie (by bus) is a pain, and trains just happen to be faster for me, so it's a no-brainer," he says.

Since the conclusion of summer school, a plethora of new causes for disruptions and delays have sprung up over the past two weeks. On February 22nd, an "infrastructure issue" delaying morning commuters was later revealed to be caused by an IT staff member

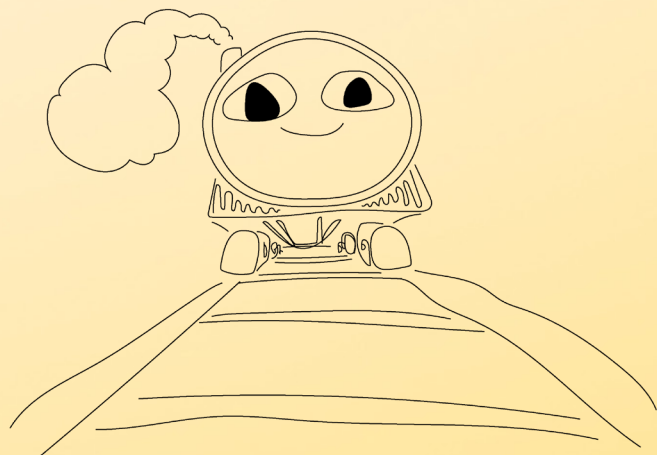
at KiwiRail working on diagnostics for the train network's firewall. Last week's disruption in the morning (again) of February 26th also brought trains on the Eastern Line to a grinding halt as a freight train in Ōrākei broke down.

Outside of the myriad railroad-related disruptions, some of the stations' interior infrastructure on the Eastern Line also does not appear to function correctly. In Panmure station specifically, a quick perusal inside (by yours truly) reveals that the electronic gate barriers are wide open, leaving passengers to believe that the card readers are faulty and thus unsure whether they should tag on/tag off at all. That last sentence cost me about \$5 extra than the typical 16 - 24-year-old fare concession rate gives you on a 2-zone journey. Getting charged a default rate for missing tag-offs is a pain, especially for us uni-brookies who need to take our budgeting seriously and frugally; But now imagine being broke and not

being able to get to university reliably due to the cancellations.

As the first week of a brand-new, student-filled semester has passed, there is significant doubt that City Rail Link and its related train services can adequately handle their full return. Whatever nine-point plan Wayne Brown has and all the "bloody good bollocking" he serves to the Unholy Trinity of trains (Auckland Transport, KiwiRail, Auckland One Rail) should have been implemented decades ago.

In our current state of public transportation, whose capillary networks are struggling to accommodate the hustle and bustle of a growing Auckland population, the only one 'hustling' to keep trains afloat is Auckland Transport, while the general public and financially fragile university students are getting 'hustled'.



# DRAWING THE CHALLENGE

LESSONS FROM AN ATTEMPTED SALE



OLIVER COCKER

For this edition of Craccum, your enterprising and far-too-outgoing-for-his-own-good Features editor took to the lengths of Queen Street to see if he possessed the promotional skills required to sell products. Armed with nothing more than the two-dollar-fiftiest pen I could find at Warehouse Stationery, I made my way into town to put my skills to the test. If you have an idea of a challenge, email the features editor your idea, and I'll do my very best to complete it for you.

It failed. People did not take to my antics. Perhaps it was the rain, my clothing, or just the fact I was some random guy wandering up and down the road asking to trade a pen for whatever people might have on them. I changed tact a few times; there was more receptiveness to asking how much they would pay for the pen, but no one wanted to pay. For my fine liner, the highest price I got was six dollars, not half bad. I also tried to appeal to the student body's desire to become Craccum famous, but apparently, that's not a good enough motivator. So, in the end, I had a pen and a story and not much more

And to be fair to the general public, I have a general wariness of people approaching me in the street. I avoid the hallowed ground under biblists like a devil. I have perfected the half-smile, half-shake of the head to turn down United Nations representatives. In their eyes, I have undoubtedly killed children.

Nonetheless, it struck me that I had a problem. And then, a man struck me because he was marching too fast down the road. But from that came the solution. Because in my almost bowled-over state, I made eye contact with someone sitting in a bus shelter. A fade cloche on his head, a heavy parker adorned with tattoo-like stains and baggy track pants folding

over the scallop of his boots. His cardboard sign read 'twenty for food?'

And it occurred to me that while this hustle was a game for me, it was survival for him. Even the word trivialises his experience. The experience of all the city folk I met on that stormy afternoon. The people who know the streets as their home, cold as warmth, and discarded cups as treasure. I met a man grabbing a New World disposable left to the road. He poured out the coffee. Drank the rainwater

On the old ASB building, someone eats an ice cream cone, collapsing under the force of the rain. In a dark coat, I'm approached from behind; a smoker stumbles along, thanks me for no reason, and trudges up the street. The fumes blow back in my face. The security guards ignore him at the jewellery stores. They know that they're not the ones to watch.

Another man wants for nought, he tells me. He's got his share and is going to buy yoghurt for joy. Another hobbles and slips. He takes refuge in a bus shelter and is given glances by passers-by. "Always the eyes," he says to me. And yet we never make it as far as hearing them, only cruel fascination. People love to avoid their glances. Hardly acknowledge their pleas. But he tells me that they understand when you can't. 'Life's bad ... for everybody.'

Outside sketchers, I spoke to a man staring at the white slip-ins, and he told me that if he could, he'd have him one of those, and they'd be as clean as clean. Those windows are as good as the walls. The doors too.

A woman barges through a platoon of photographing high-school girls and is scared off by the tallest, but not without some

cursing. She cries of demons and politicians, apathy and too much care for little problems. She feels alone, abandoned to the heart of the city.

Four people are listening to Stan Walker outside the MacDonald. Not alone, so long as they have each other. Still small between skyscrapers. And one's taking notes as we talk. He doesn't want to share them. Private dreams or secret lyrics. He bobs his head away as I walk off.

I entered the Sky Entertainment Centre on a whim. It was falling apart at the seams. Taking the rocket lift, I found a group sheltering from the rain and cold. Sitting just close enough to smell the buttery popcorn without any actual ability to get it. As with everyone else, I ask if they need anything. Turn the weather off, 'if you're Jesus,' a woman tells me.

Outside the countdown, a man wants gum. He counts it when I hand it to him and says thanks. He tells me that he plans it. When he wants to smoke, he has one of those instead. And he often wants to smoke.

I passed a man whose whole life was strapped to a trolley. He leaves it and walks in to look at the things in PBTech. His whole life, sitting to be wheeled away. But no one wants his life. And no one wants to give it back to him either.

When the heavens stopped and the rays came out again, I can not say that I knew more about what it is to hustle, sell, or even survive. But I saw stories we all see and never speak of, and I knew they had to be somewhere. The pen was passed to a man to write his next sign. Its value has increased, and its story is ongoing.





# People Pleaser's Paradox

## The Crime of Conformity



REEMA ARSILAN

When you hear the phrase “people pleaser,” you may think of a set of seemingly innocuous traits, a trauma response, or a Taylor Swift lyric (damn you). For those of you who haven’t managed to think of anything at all, a people pleaser is someone who pushes aside their own feelings in order to accommodate the needs of others. This sounds selfless on the surface, but it tends to be driven by a need to be liked, which is rooted in insecurity.

Being able to get along with others is an important skill, and it is natural to want to be liked and to avoid conflict. Many of us are guilty of certain people-pleasing tendencies, and the problem is that it can be quite disingenuous. I’ve heard more and more people refer to themselves as “people pleasers” as if it’s a badge of honour or a medical diagnosis and the truth is it’s not either of those things. I’m extremely wary of wading into Tiktok armchair psychologist territory, so quick disclaimer: all of this is my unprofessional opinion and should, therefore, be taken with a heaped spoonful of salt.

People pleasing really takes it out of you. It’s a relentless performance act of putting yourself aside and suppressing your own feelings in order to appease others. Is it

even worth it? If people like the facade that you’ve put on, it’s not the same as actually liking you. All this leads to is resentment and exhaustion, and what’s the point?

It’s not just about how it impacts the people pleaser themselves, but the people around them as well. It can be very obvious when the source of someone’s actions is not altruism but the need to be viewed as altruistic. Likewise, it can be obvious when someone acts out of the need to avoid any form of conflict rather than doing what they think is right. The more you try to appeal to everyone, the less you’re going to be able to have deep or meaningful relationships with anyone. If you water down your personality, all of your interpersonal relationships will wind up tasteless as well.

So many people place more importance on being palatable or likable than on the things that matter; personal values, integrity, and kindness. Being kind and being nice is not the same thing. This might be controversial, but just because you’re nice doesn’t mean that you’re a good person or even pleasant to be around. Okay, there’s nothing wrong with being nice and polite, but there are more important qualities. I’m not advocating for rudeness or “brutal honesty” because that’s a slippery slope to simply becoming an asshole that I’d rather not go down. I

just think that life shouldn’t be a popularity contest unless you’re a politician, in which case integrity probably doesn’t apply anyway.

People pleasing is like a really extreme kind of social conformity. Rather than an expression of goodwill or mutual respect, it’s a pattern of compliance-driven by insecurity. Conforming to a set of standards in order to appeal to everyone and avoid conflict is unhealthy and dishonest and completely eliminates personal boundaries or independent critical thought. It is impossible to be a neutral, inoffensive person, and even if it were possible, it wouldn’t be a worthwhile state of being.

None of this is an attack on people pleasers, although I’m clearly not a fan. I’m just trying to invite some introspection on the topic because a lot of people could benefit from it. It’s time to start thinking for ourselves again. Don’t be afraid to set some boundaries, form an opinion, jump down that fence, and have a confrontation if need be. Sure, some people will like you less, but the ones that matter will like you more for it. Finding the right people who like you for the right reasons is ultimately worth so much more than the fallacy of mass appeal.





# NĀTI TUTETUTE

## Hustler Heritability: A Case Study

FUSHIA TIBBLE

Each working 60+ hours weeks in paid and unpaid roles, my parents are Dr. Frankenstein and I, their monster, pursue my own love: work-life balance. But how did I come to be?

**Background & Methods:** My left leg stands strong from manual labour. A farmer from 14 turned plumber in his 40s. All his life, my dad has worked from the dark hours of morning into the deep night. Unpaid labour is common and the sweat from satisfaction was bitterly cheap compared to the sweet of a gold coin. His values centred around impressing the boss and demonstrating your work ethic in everything you do. Despite this, my dad is still on a journey to realising his worth but has earned himself a blissful life as a plumber and farmer 4 and 3 days a week respectively.

**Observed Effect:** Satisfaction comes from hard mahi. MUST be early and stay late. Needing to ask is lowkey shame...

**Background & Methods:** My right leg is erratic and always busy. Self-made with the ultimate education sector pipeline: teacher à principal à kohanga reo teacher à ERO officer à developing curricula. Mum embodies forging your own path but, in the words of her grandmother Whaia McClutchie nee Tuhaka,

my mum "speaks for the people". She is a rohenga representative, casual caterer upon request, A.C.E. tutor, and more. You will find her coming home from one job and working past midnight on her community projects and volunteer roles. Her choice of mahi impact home and she has never let her interests die at the hand of one job.

**Observed Effect:** Opportunities are gold. Favours asked MUST be delivered. Multiple jobs = normal. Sooner is better than later. CONSTANTLY WORKING.

## BACKGROUND & METHODS

At my core, I am a Nāti and my heart belongs to Te Tairāwhiti. Icon Tā Apirana Ngata told us to reach out to te taha Pākeha to sustain ourselves - an easy task as a science student. He tells us to dedicate our ngākau to our tīpuna Māori so they may adorn our heads but a white-passing Māori is a double-edged sword. In studies, revelation risks being targeted and/or one's worth calculated on reo capabilities. In mahi, "being" Māori risks being burdened with translation projects without transformation and unsolicited "Māori experience" stories. But at least I have the option - right? Mātauranga Ngāti Porou tells

us to "make do", so there is no choice. My attitude homogenises "cuzzy" and professional with a Nāti twang, my hononga are an unlimited resource, and my CV is now 4 pages long.

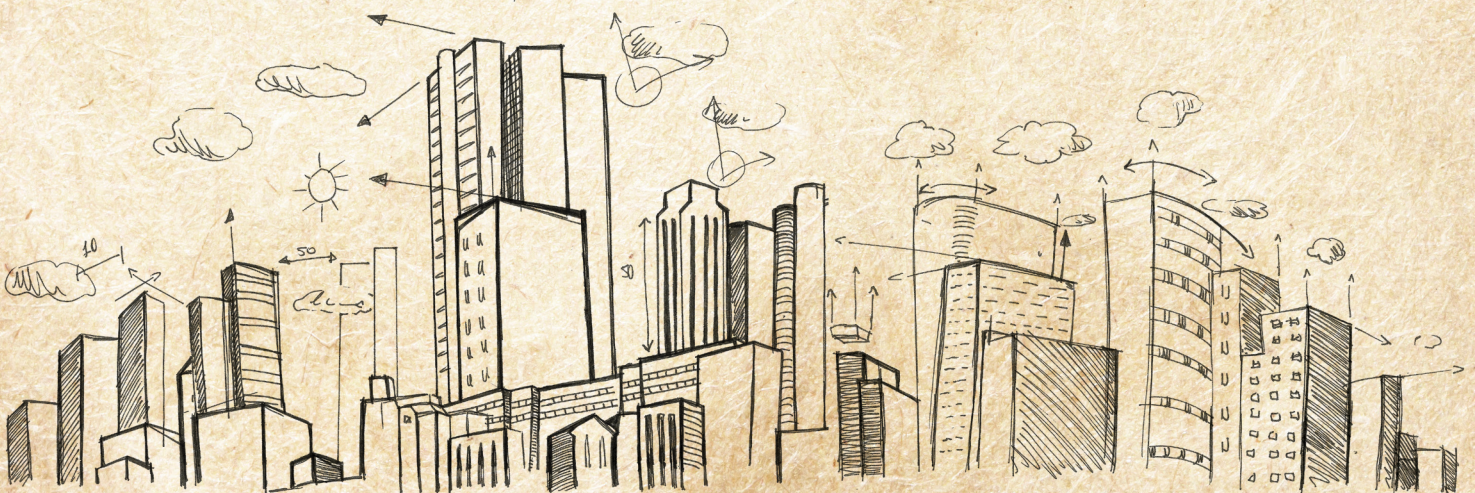
**Observed Effect:** Won't ask for help. Service > Self-preservation. Homesickness. Imposter syndrome.

## RESULTS

No student loan. Affords CBD rent, utilities, groceries and savings. 5 casual contracts + 4 volunteer roles. BSci Biomed graduate. Starting PGDip Biomed. Infinite delulu. Monthly stress-induced spirals. Part-time Waipiro marae rat.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE HUSTLERS

Consider dropping a paper/contract before dropping off the face of the earth. You WILL need to close one door before opening another. Take rest or rest will take you.





# THE HASSLE OF THE MĀORI HUSTLE

## A GUIDE TO STARTING A MĀORI BUSINESS AND THE REALITIES.



BLAZE WEBSTER

**In** Aotearoa, it is no secret that it is difficult to find a job, so might as well make your own!

I have always thought of becoming an entrepreneur myself but felt out of place with my passion for fibre arts (crocheting and knitting) as a Māori woman. However, I found support and inspiration to start my own business by myself through the ways I discuss below.

Māori businesses are growing, but not all Māori businesses are run by Māori people. Many local businesses get sold off to tangata tiriti or get bought by international companies that demolish the original business. Support and motivation for young local businesses are crucial for them to survive and thrive. Māori businesses build positive work environments due to the values and communities they create and carry for Māori. However, out of 3,920 Māori businesses 282 are in tourism alone (Stats NZ, 2022). With this in mind, we need to push for more local and more Māori.

As I have seen, starting an original business is a hard task. Finding the products and sponsors can be even harder, but I hope this guide will help you get your local business up.

### SOLUTIONS

First thing is first, find an issue that needs to be tackled and work around it in your way. Think about your whakapapa, and imagine the issues they may have faced. Maybe there is a solution right in front of you, or maybe think about what kaumātua would have wanted!

### STARTING OUT

Make sure to use your resources! The uni and outside companies are willing to provide

resources and sponsorships to the right causes. Clubs like *Te Mana Pakihi* are a great way to be welcomed into the business world as a student. They provide opportunities to build interpersonal and organisational skills within their workshops and presentation events. All students are welcomed into this club regardless of degree. Another support is the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. They offer programmes and events that can give you an advantage in your field of business.

### TEAMWORK

Work with others that share your ideas and visions. Confine support in your lwi and whānau where you can. Whānau love is the best love! Or maybe find a supportive friend who also wants some cash. You never know until you ask.

### FINDING YOUR CLIENTS

Market, Advertise, and Promote! Ensure that you have a catchy slogan and posters covering every inch of the Engineering Building. A social media presence is also very important in our modern age for showing your products to the whole of Aotearoa!

### GETTING OUT THERE

Finally, put your business out there. Go to other local businesses, work together, and exchange business cards. Join markets and try to sell your products there too! For example, the night markets across Auckland; I love going to them and shopping locally. Maybe I will see you there.

Overall, if it does not work out, just try again.

Do the mahi and get the treats.

That's what kaumātua would want.

### GLOSSARY

Aotearoa = New Zealand

Tangata tiriti = Non-Māori

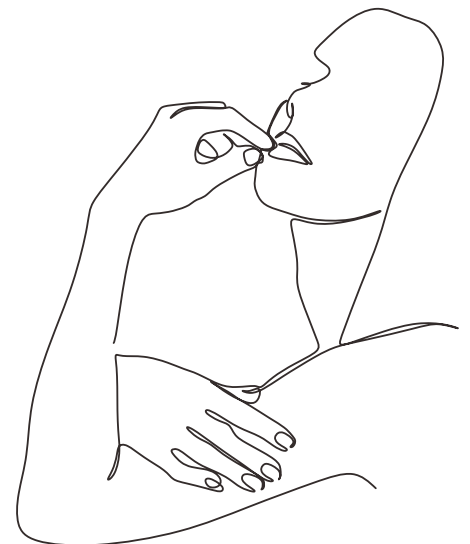
Whakapapa = Genealogy, lineage, kinship

Kaumātua = Tribal elder

Lwi = Tribe

Whānau = Extended family

Mahi = Work





# Ode to Fa'anānā Efeso Collins

**Redefining the term 'Hustle' in the form of the Samoan value 'Tautua'**



IATUA FELAGAI TAITO

Through my lens as a Pacific student under Waipapa Taumata Rau, I view hustle as these three themes: hard work, resilience and vision to be in continuity.

When I think of the three themes through a Samoan lens, an overarching value that encompasses the three themes is "Tautua", which in English means 'service'. One Pacific leader I know who encapsulates these three themes and Samoan values of Tautua—of serving your communities wholeheartedly—is Fa'anānā Efeso Collins, who sadly passed away on the 21st of February. In my heart, I felt it necessary

to commemorate this article to Fa'anānā Efeso Collins and celebrate the way he has devoutly served his faith in God, family, his Aganu'u Fa'a-Samoa (Samoan culture), Pacific communities, this University, South Auckland and many more.

In this article, I will call him Fa'anānā as that is his bestowed Matai (chiefly title) name in Samoan culture. Fa'anānā was the first Pasifika president of Auckland University's Student Association (AUSA); He attained his BA and MA, has lectured at the University of Auckland, working here for 15 years, and founded the past initiative 'Dream Fonotaga', a program that

offered mentoring for Year 12 students on proper and successful habits and tools for future study in tertiary institutions. With his experience, he became a Youth Worker, Auckland councillor for the Manukau ward, chair of the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board, and then a Parliament (MP) member for the Green Party.

But out of all the personal experiences and beliefs that have guided him throughout his life, award-winning Senior Writer Simon Wilson puts it best: "The values on which he stood most firmly, the wellspring to everything in him and the thing that gave him the greatest pleasure, was children."



In Fa'anānā's own words, "I want my girls to see their parents standing up for them and for a climate that's going to be better... My girls are brown, and the data is clear that it is brown women who make the least. I want them to know we're in this fight together."

Many eloquent and powerful articles are written about Fa'anānā, but regarding this theme of 'hustle', I feel Fa'anānā adds more nuance to this term. As a Samoan person, his 'hustle' had a moral imperative, and the Samoan value of Tautua is exemplary of the leadership qualities he has encapsulated.

As a Pasifika editor, I was deeply saddened by the passing of our fellow Pacific alumni from Waipapa Taumata Rau. He has a legacy of championing cultural identity and well-being and supporting low-socioeconomic people. He has also supported Pacific communities, calling out all forms of racism and being the quintessential Pacific migrant dream.

Growing up, his parents (Dad being a taxi driver and Mum working on the factory floor) moved to Aotearoa and instilled in him aspirations towards aspiring for a good education, for a better life, and then ultimately giving back to your family, church and Pacific communities.

His hustle came from humble beginnings, and even though I did not personally know him, I want to note that me and Fa'anānā followed each other on Instagram and Facebook friends for a few years. What I saw as an observer and supporter was all his amazing work in the Pacific community. However, the most important thing that radiated constantly was the way he loved his family. Ultimately I felt it necessary to honour his memory and his long-lasting legacy as I share what people have said about him below.

But before that, I want to say la manuia lau malaga Fa'anānā. May our Heavenly Father protect, guide, heal and support your wife, daughters and family through this time of grief. The Bible scripture John 11:26 - "And everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." This verse will be central to your faith and re-emphasising that your love to support your communities and love for your family will never die and will forever be here vicariously through your loved ones and community.

*"Raised in the 274 in Otara, and now based in Ōtāhuhu, he was always preaching his Southside pride and was staunchly proud of his Samoan and Tokelauan roots. He was unapologetically proud to be brown."*

#### **Pasifika Editor of NZ Herald Vaimoana Mase**

*"One of the things Fes was dedicated to was trying to illuminate pathways for young people in South Auckland, specifically Pacific youth."*

#### **Senior Lecturer Seuta'afili Dr Patrick Thomsen on the Q+A show**

*"A trailblazer as the first Pacific person to become AUSA president... He was a visionary and paved the way for Pacific peoples; he always made time to come onto campus for our students."*

#### **Pro Vice-Chancellor Pacific, Professor Jemaima Tiatia-Siau**

*"Efeso showed the little brown Pacific kids growing up in criminalised and impoverished South Auckland that they too were destined for greatness. In a world that gives Pacific youth very little reason to try, Efeso became a beacon of hope."*

#### **New Zealander of the Year in 2023 Shaneel Lal**

*"Efeso was always so friendly, gracious, generous, kind, positive, and collaborative, with a lovely sense of humour. He certainly lived by the words he uttered in his maiden speech, which was to lead with the spirit of peace and love and service. He was what I would call a true servant leader."*

#### **Current Prime Minister of NZ Christopher Luxon**

*"Aotearoa and the Green Party have lost one of the kindest, most dedicated champions of fairness and equality. Efeso Collins was a good man. He was called to come to Parliament because of what he could see of the worsening poverty, the inadequate incomes, the profound inequities that affect and shape Pacific communities that he came from."*

#### **Green Party co-leader James Shaw**

*"Losing Efeso is a loss to our country and to our Pasifika community. There will be a gaping hole left in so many spaces. He called out racism; he challenged discrimination and unfairness; he held individuals, systems, agencies and organisations to account. He also shouted from the rooftops the amazingness and the aspirations of our Pasifika community."*

#### **Labour Party deputy leader Carmel Sepuloni**

*"Everything he did was to create a better world for his daughters."*

#### **Auckland Councillor Josephine Bartley on the Q+A show**

# PICK UP THAT CAN, CITIZEN!

## HUSTLING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE



MIKE CROSS

As I was crushing the various empties left over from the Craccum launch party in the wee hours of Saturday morning for easier recycling, inspiration struck. How was I to reconcile the ideas of both hustle and the environment for this week's article? A task which previously had been giving me no end of grief. Most times, when we hear the word "hustle," it conjures images of side street black market merchants hawking their ill-gotten wares or various shakedowns for services of protection or of a more exotic nature. Not exactly the kind of thing which draws easy, clean parallels to the environment or conservation.

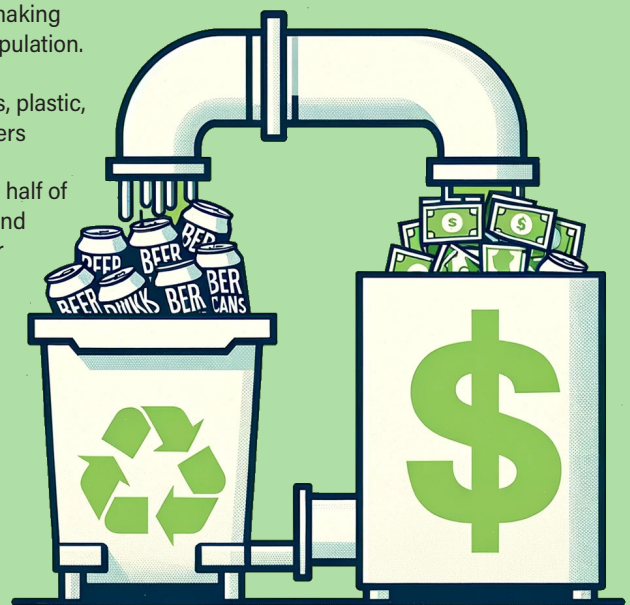
Yet, as I stood there amidst the remnants of our celebration, the penny dropped. The hustle needed in today's world isn't about quick cash through dubious means but about sustainable and innovative practices that not only save but also earn money. This is where the concept of container return schemes comes into play, a system that could turn

the tide on recycling efforts while making fat stacks for Aotearoa's student population.

We drink from over two billion glass, plastic, and metal single-use drink containers each year in our beautiful country. Shockingly, it is estimated that over half of these empty beverage containers end up in landfills, unused stockpiles, or littering our streets, public spaces, streams, beaches, and the ocean. The impact of this waste isn't just unsightly, it's environmental and contributes to the degradation of habitats and losses in biodiversity.

Container return schemes offer a glimmer of hope, they encourage consumers and businesses to return beverage containers for recycling and reuse by including a refundable deposit in the price of purchase. Simply returning an empty bottle (or can) to a designated drop-off point for recycling can see consumers getting their deposit back, usually around 20 cents or more per container. Internationally, these deposits can range from 7 to 49 cents, showcasing the potential for significant earnings based on the volume of recyclables processed.

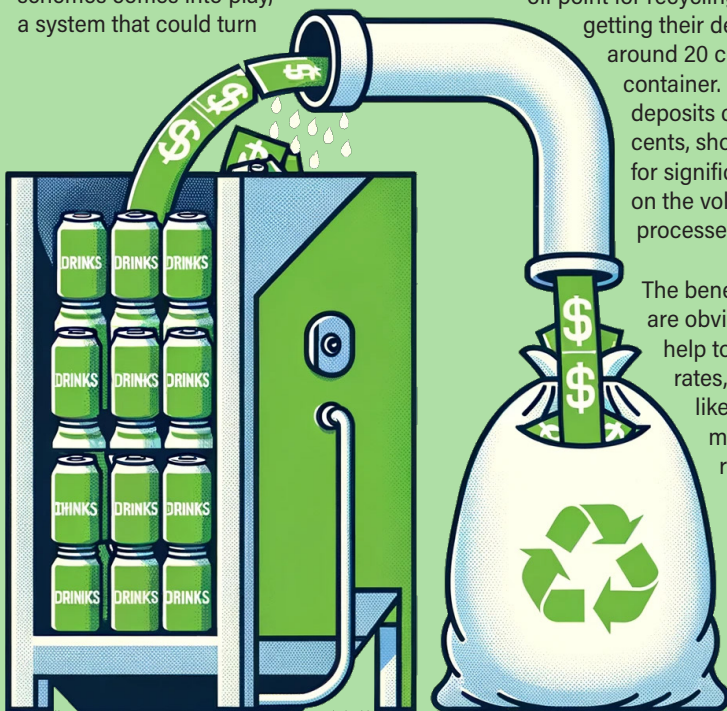
The benefits of such schemes are obvious, Firstly they help to increase recycling rates, ensuring materials like glass, plastic, and metal are repurposed rather than discarded. Secondly, they play a crucial role in reducing litter, making our public spaces cleaner and more inviting. Finally, by decreasing the need for virgin



packaging production, such programs can lead to a reduction in emissions, contributing to the fight against the climate crisis. With over 50 programs operating or in the process of being established globally (including in Australia, Canada, the USA, and Europe) container return schemes can reduce beverage container litter by 60 per cent or more.

Unfortunately New Zealand doesn't currently offer a specific can recycling program, however companies like Sims Metal and other scrap yards will happily pay citizens and businesses for cans and other miscellaneous scrap. This opens up a pathway for students looking for a side hustle, to turn their trash into cash.

But it's not just about drink containers. With the rising popularity of magnet fishing (a hobby where individuals use strong magnets to fish for old junk illegally dumped in waterways) there's another opportunity to turn trash into treasure. From discarded bicycles to tools and jewellery, magnet fishing not only cleans up our





waterways but can also uncover items of value.

Meanwhile, education and awareness campaigns will offer wider community

participation, increasing the impact of these efforts.

So, how can students and environmentally conscious individuals get involved? With organisation and community engagement. By setting up collection points at universities, hostels, and local community centres, we can create a network of recycling hubs that make participation in container return schemes and scrap metal collection easier and more accessible, environmental clubs and societies could also organise regular magnet fishing outings, combining social activity with environmental cleanup.

The key to this successful side hustle is volume. The more containers and scrap metal you collect and return, the higher the potential earnings. Collaborating with local businesses, cafes, and bars to collect their empty containers will only amplify the amount of recyclables processed.



As the cost of living and inflation rises, finding cunning ways to earn a cheeky bit of extra cash are more important than ever. Container return schemes and other recycling initiatives not only offer financial incentives but also align with sustainable living ideals. For students and young people across our fair green country, this isn't just a side hustle, it's environmental responsibility in motion! A tangible (and profitable) way to make a difference, one container and one piece of old junk at a time.

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT VIA THEIR WEBSITE [HTTPS://ENVIRONMENT.GOVT.NZ/WHAT-GOVERNMENT-IS-DOING/AREAS-OF-WORK/WASTE/CONTAINER-RETURN-SCHEME/](https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/areas-of-work/waste/container-return-scheme/)

IMAGES COURTESY OF OPEN A.I. - CREATED USING CHAT GTP4

- Live Music by The Burtones
- Variety of Food & Drink

**THURS 7 MARCH**  
**5-8PM**  
 Holy Trinity Cathedral  
 Cnr St Stephens Ave & Parnell Rd

[parnell.net.nz/parnell-food-truck-nites/](http://parnell.net.nz/parnell-food-truck-nites/) for more info



The above event will proceed if there is light rain as there is undercover seating. However if the event is cancelled due to severe weather, the rain date is Thursday 13 March 5-8pm.







2022





# SONIC'S LEAST BIGGEST FAN

## AN INTERVIEW WITH KIWI YOUTUBER JOEL SHEFFIELD (ANGRYSONIC)

From uni side hustle to full-time career with 920k Subscribers



LEWIS MATHESON CREED

Last week, I sat down for drinks with Joel, one of our country's most successful YouTubers. His niche is unboxing Sonic the Hedgehog merch, but plot twist: he's not even a fan of the franchise. For him, it's just another job. And he's not afraid to get his hustle on, too. He's sold his silver 100k subscriber play-button and just returned from a gap year working at Maccas, which he described as "the best year of my life". He also predicted the future when he named his channel, *AngrySonic* (a conjunction of Angry Birds and Sonic the Hedgehog) years before Sega's acquisition of Rovio. As he approaches a million subscribers, he reflects on his career, gives us a glimpse into his lifestyle and gives some tips so you too, can spark your influencer side hustle.

**How would you describe yourself in one word?**

*Unusual*

**What colour are you feeling today?**

*Turquoise (spoken between sips of a cocktail of that colour)*

**What was the piece of media you consumed? A TV show, movie, game or album?**

*Better Call Saul. Breaking Bad is my favourite show of all time.*

**Favourite restaurant?**

*Goode Brothers New Lynn. I'm a regular, and they even once made a special blue Sonic cocktail for me!*

**How long have you been watching YouTube?**

*Since high school, when I was about 17. I was hooked for quite a while, but once I started making them, I lost interest. It doesn't achieve much.*

**When did you start uploading YouTube videos?**

*I was at Uni at the time, in my last year. I was 22, around 2017. I was majoring in Electronic Engineering.*

**How would you describe the type of content you make?**

*Simple unboxing videos, for the most part.*

**When did YouTube turn from a hobby to a side hustle? And when did it turn from a side hustle to a career?**

*At first, I ran a random drawing channel, which eventually made \$100 a month after a few years. But my channel suddenly took*





off to \$1000 a month the instant I randomly decided to try drawing Sonic characters.

The whole thing was an accident; I had no plan whatsoever. After the Sonic videos did so well, I decided to become a YouTuber full-time. My channel has grown pretty consistently since then, although it slowed down around Covid, but it's been picking up again recently.

**Do you ever get recognised in public by people around Auckland?**

I have never been recognised for being a YouTuber in public, but local people know who I am because I've mentioned it in conversation. Some people nickname me "Sonic". Ahahaha.

I don't feel I'm famous enough, plus it's not about the subs; it's the views. You can have a million subs but be a dead channel. It doesn't help that I don't show my face in 99% of my videos.

**What does an average day in the life look like for you?**

Pretty much all I do is wake up and have coffee; if I have new merch, I might do one unboxing video, then go out and about in my free time. My routine at the moment isn't consistent, but I used to have heaps of packages coming in each day. When painting custom things, I might work 5 hours a day. Max.

I like the unboxing lifestyle; I feel it suits me. But it can also be lonely as I work on my channel alone.

**What's your favourite piece of Sonic Merch?**

The Classic Sonic Funko Pops for Sonic, Tails and Knuckles.

**What's a piece of Sonic merch you thought was really overpriced or just dumb?**

The First 4 Figures giant-sized statues. I ended up with 10 of them at one point and wasted all a grand each. I don't keep my Sonic merch and sell it off on TradeMe or eBay. But they were really hard to sell, and even then, I'd only make \$100 back. They're so pointless, but some would light up, which was cool, I guess.

**Last time I spoke with you, you mentioned that you're not a Sonic fan, which is surprising given your channel's focus. Does that impact your work life?**

It felt like I was living a lie or being someone I wasn't. But it's also very interesting and exciting pretending to be someone you're not. You can see both sides, in and outside the fandom. A double life.

# "I'M NOT EVEN A SONIC FAN. I CAN'T BELIEVE I WAKE UP AND I'M THAT GUY."

In my mind, I couldn't have imagined any of this would have happened. I feel I'm the last person that would end up in this situation. Being the quiet kid in class and becoming a big celebrity. The universe has a way of surprising you, and anything is possible, for sure.

**Even so, do you have a favourite Sonic character and favourite game?**

I was never much of a gamer, so I don't have a favourite game. And my favourite Sonic character is Sonic.exe. If I wasn't the Sonic guy, I might be narrating CreepyPastas. Ahahaha.

**Off the top of your head, who are some fellow YouTubers you respect?**

Nikocado Avocado; he's just a funny person. BrentTV, too, he does just SpongeBob stuff, like I just do Sonic stuff. Those are two I look up to for inspiration.

**What is your favourite YouTube video that you've made if you have one?**

A compilation of all the Sonic popsicles I made. It's my most viewed video, with 30 million. It's my favourite because of the hard work I put into it. I edited it as a rapid montage, which I think worked well for the "TikTok" short attention span.

I also later sold the popsicles to people all over the world, like Brazil and America. I resell everything in my videos, always at a loss, but it is what it is.

**What would you say if you had a time machine and could tell your younger self one thing?**

I would say don't waste your money and reinvest it into YouTube. If I had been better with my money, I could have made better content.

**What do you think about the current state of YouTube?**

It's the same as before, but there's a lot of censorship. If you make stuff for kids, you can

lose as much as 90% of the revenue you should be making because they don't get targeted ads. Although my videos are watched by all ages, thankfully.

**What's something you're looking forward to in the future?**

Hitting one million subscribers is my main goal. My current side hustle is fixing Maccas's ice cream and frozen Coke machines. After that, I want to try voice acting or start my own business, even if it doesn't make money. A pop-up Sonic merch store would be really fun.

**What are some common misconceptions people have about the lifestyle of influencers/YouTubers?**

It's not as easy as you think. People often go on about 'stupid' influencers like Logan Paul, who can make rubbish videos and make thousands. But they don't think about all the years of hard work it took to grow your channel to that point where you can easily post a video like that. YouTube has costs, not just profits. Mr Beast is making millions, but he's paying millions. Someone might be making big money, but they're spending big, too.

Another downside is the negative comments. No matter how perfect you try to be on the internet, they're gonna pick you apart and hold it against you.

**If someone wants to become a YouTuber like you, what habits should they foster for success?**

## THE KEYWORD IS CONSISTENCY.

In the earlier stages, you want to try lots of different things, but once you find that one thing that gets views, stick to it.

The only way to succeed is to try your hardest, but if you don't enjoy the process, there's no point in doing it all; if you're failing, at least you're having fun. You have to really want it.

**What's something much harder about being a YouTuber than people realise?**

All your eggs are in one basket. If your topic dies off, you're kinda screwed. You're relying on one platform to pay your rent, and you could lose everything if you get your account terminated. There's a lot of risk. Plus, you have to wait a month to get paid. You just exist every month, wondering if it will all disappear one day. I sense that my time is up on YouTube sometimes.

**What's actually much easier about being**



**a YouTuber than people think?**

*People don't realise most of the revenue comes from the old videos, not new ones. You can make up to \$100 an hour for doing nothing. I've made many videos that took me less than an hour to edit and film, cost \$100 for the toy, but have made me over \$5000 over the years.*

**There's always a lot of discourse on "algorithms" and Social Media. What's your take?**

*For the most part, you're stuck with the topic your channel focuses on. For me, that is Sonic. Even when I try to branch out, the videos on other topics flop. The algorithm feels random and targeted at the same time.*

*It used to be so easy; I could upload whatever and get views, but now it's a struggle. It feels like your success is out of your control.*

**What has been your experience shifting between social media platforms?**

*I tried TikTik once and got 30,000 followers before I deleted it. The difference is you get instant views, but I just tried it to fuel my YouTube channel, which didn't work out.*

**Did you need to invest money to become an influencer?**

*You don't need an expensive camera or editing software. As time goes by, you can, but it isn't needed.*

**How does being a Kiwi factor into being a YouTuber?**

*All the comments saying my accent is funny. Ahahaha. There's not many New Zealand YouTubers, so there's not much competition. There's plenty of space for more Kiwi channels :)*

**Lastly, is there anything you want to plug or shout out to our readers?**

**SUBSCRIBE TO MY CHANNEL: ANGRYSONIC! HELP GET ME TO A MILLION SUBSCRIBERS!!**

# I SOLD MY BED. HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD TOO.

**A way to optimise your sleep cycle to maximise your hustling hours**



SEAN MATHESON AND LEWIS MATHESON CREED

A month ago, I was lying in my bed at night, deep into the AMs, revenge bedtime procrastinating on YouTube, when I found this video by Mike Chang, which transformed my life forever. The video in question is titled "Why I stop sleeping on beds and went to the floor instead," and it has gained over 1.2 million views in the past few months. In the video, he recounts how he has gone a whole decade without using any bed and that it majorly improved his sleep quality, health and general well-being.

It piqued my curiosity, although he didn't go into much theory as to why no bed = good sleep. But something in my head clicked when I recalled from my Sports & Exercise science classes that wearing shoes that overly support your foot had adverse health effects. So I decided to try it, jumped out of bed, put my duvet on the floor and fell asleep.

The first night was challenging as the floor felt so uncomfortable. But the following day, I already felt better rested, lighter, relaxed and energised, but I still woke up quite late at 9 am. There wasn't much change for the next few days; still struggling to sleep but waking up refreshed. The first real benefit I noticed was that I couldn't rest for another 5 minutes or fall back asleep quickly. Once I was up, I was up. I've found my days to be so much more productive. After about 2 weeks, I switched from my duvet to just a thin sheet as I began to adjust to the hard surface. After three weeks of sleeping on the floor, I started waking up earlier, my new normal is 6 am. It was at this point that I finally decided to sell my bed to make quick cash. I don't need it anymore. And I think you should try sleeping on the floor too, even for three days. Just try it. Trust me, you'll feel so much better. Thank me later ;)





# DOs and DON'ts Of zines

A guide on how to turn your art into affluence



LEWIS MATHESON CREED

There's no doubt that zines are very much on trend, having gone in and out of style over the past century. If you don't know what they are, they're a form of amateur independent maga(zine). The format's appeal lies in its complete creative freedom since you, as the author, can make it literally about anything you want. The cool thing is there are various markets around Auckland City every year where you can sell your zines, such as the big Auckland Zinefest. I've attempted (*keyword attempted*) to sell my zines at five such markets before. While my success has been limited, I've learnt from my failures and observed the habits of stalls that pop off. Below, I've compiled ten tips that will help maximise your zine's potential to make you zillions. Or, realistically, up to a couple hundred bucks. P.S. If you want to learn more about the art of the zine, I recommend reading *Make a zine!* by Joe Biel.

## DOs

- 1. Rehearse a good sales pitch and actively talk to passers-by to hook them:** I'm guilty of not doing this as I'm pretty shy, plus I'm usually on my laptop furiously finishing an assignment or a Craccum article while at the stall and don't have the mental bandwidth to do both. But this is the absolute number one way to have a successful zine. You need to actually sell it to people; your art alone won't sell itself, no matter how good it is. Say, "Kia ora, how's your day going?" or "Check out my zine!" These will help slow people floating and give your zine more than a passing glance.
- 2. Make a simple and straightforward cover:** Why? Because lots of people visiting your stall won't even listen to your pitch. If you've managed to slow them down, they'll often just pick up your zine and start reading it automatically. People judge books by the cover, and if they can understand your zine without your explanation, there's a better chance your visitor will leave as a customer.

- 3. Develop a concept for the zine that generates value for the reader:** Your art might be aesthetic af, but if that's all it is, once your visitors have flicked through your zine, they have no further use for it. There will be dozens, if not hundreds, of stalls and zines competing for your visitors' tight budget. Your art is a drop in the bucket. But, if you make your zine actually have a use beyond looking pretty, it can make it worth taking home in the eyes of the customer. I've seen some super effective ways to do this, including game instructions, maps, or cooking recipes.



- 4. Assemble a cutesy display for your stall:** Investing in displays for your zines and art is not something I recommend on your first rodeo. Still, a general trend is that eye-catching stalls catch more eyes, which translates to sales.
- 5. If all else fails, make bootleg merch:** Some might call this a selling out, but I call it the

hustler's homage. Regardless, if your zine/art is related to a specific fandom, fans of that thing might be inclined to buy your zine simply because it references it. Like famous bands and musicians, the more mainstream the fandom, the more likely you'll encounter fans in the wild. Although people who go to zinefests tend to be quite geeky, me included.

## DON'ts

- 1. Don't print too many:** Seriously. Especially if it is your first attempt at a zinefest. Print 5-10 copies max. I printed wayyy too many zines at my first market, and I still have 15 copies left over. If your zine is popular and sells out, you can print more next time. They might say you have to spend money to make money, but they forget that you have to make money first in order to spend it. Alas, the Catch-22 of our capitalist society.
- 2. Don't make one-of-a-kind or handmade zines:** Now, you might think making them one of a kind or by hand adds value since you lovingly made them. Remember your time is more valuable than that. Plus, it can put people off from purchasing your zine because they find owning the sole copy too daunting.
- 3. Don't make the zine too long:** 8-12 pages are plenty; more length = higher printing cost, which reduces your profit margin.
- 4. Don't charge too much:** Remember that you can only realistically charge about \$5 for a zine. An expensive zine will put people off from buying it.
- 5. Don't be dissuaded if you don't succeed:** This is perhaps the most important tip. I have spent whole days at markets with no sales at all, which can be a pretty defeating feeling. However, if you persist and follow these tips, I'm sure you'll be raking it in soon enough. Hustle on!

# Artist Spotlight: adv



TIM EVANS

**adv** is the new kid on the block for queer pop in Auckland. His first EP, *Trust Issues*, was released on Feb 2nd and was celebrated by a release party a few weeks ago. I headed along and had an absolute blast. His music is fun and real, and it translated so well live. Supported by Noah Page and Luca Garcia Ferrari, adv seriously captured the crowd and put on an incredible show. I was lucky enough to ask him a few questions about the EP and his journey.

**What was the journey like for *Trust Issues*? Were there any inspirations or moments which started it all?**

Trust Issues was an accident. It started when I finished film school and wanted to make a music video as a reel to get work in the film industry. I thought it would be cool to record a song and work with my friends to turn it into something. I met Noah Page and we recorded *BubbleBath*. I knew the song was a banger, and out of this experience, the rest of Trust Issues exploded out of my head. When I went back to Noah for another session, I had written the rest of the album, and then it took the confidence to commit to something which had suddenly grown in scale. I was very lucky to have friends who were eager to help out on this journey and were on board with my crazy idea to make an audiovisual album. We just kept growing the team and expanding the work, and now it's finally

finished and ready to be shared with the world.

**Do you have any inspirations at the moment?**

My go-to inspo is always Bjork. She proper changed my life and I was lucky enough to go and see her play in Perth last year. Dreams really do come true! For this album though, the inspo was quite niche - Rainy

a better friend and collaborator.

**Do you feel like queer pop is setting the standard at the moment in the music scene?**

Tricky question. Everyone has different standards. I wouldn't say I set the standard for anything - I'm just here to vibe and have a good time telling these very human stories. It's important to note however

that queer artists are still very much at the fringes of this industry despite sometimes appearing to be ubiquitous, particularly queer artists who are out before becoming famous. Every queer artist you know who is internationally successful probably came out publicly after they made their hits, and we still have to reckon with this. So while I would love to say yes, we still have very few examples of queer artists who top the charts and are also able to truly be themselves from the outset of their career, and the general pop music landscape suffers as a result.

**Trust Issues is available to stream and download now on Apple Music**

**and Spotify. You can check out adv on YouTube and see the new *Do It Over* music video, directed by Chye-Ling Huang. The full Trust Issues film will be released on the 14th of March, but in the meantime, you can also listen to "A Kōrero w/ adv: February 19, 2024" from our friends at 95bfm and check him out on Instagram: @advkillinit**



Miller, Leo Bhanji, Harvey Causon, Greentea Peng and Matt Corby.

**What has been the coolest experience while working on the album?**

Working with Noah has been the best part of this entire experience. Honestly, we became such good friends over the course of this work, and I feel like he held me very gently all the way through. I couldn't ask for



# CLUBS

CHECK OUT THESE THREE COOL CLUBS ON CAMPUS, COME BACK EACH WEEK FOR MORE CLUB CONTENT.



## AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY SURGICAL SOCIETY

We are an interest group for anyone interested in surgery. Our events include showcasing some of the coolest things about surgery. We have a surgical event with esteemed surgeons who come in to share their unique journey, Suturing workshops to help students practise practical skills, and visits to see the Da Vinci Robot (a robot that helps a surgeon carry out their surgeries). Many of our events have over 200 attendees and we also organise fun visits like pub quizzes and more!



## WEB DEVELOPMENT & CONSULTING CLUB

Looking for a job in IT? Want to upskill yourself technically or just meet new people? Look no further than the Web Development & Consulting Club Inc. (WDCC) - the largest student-led tech club in New Zealand. From case competitions, hands-on technical workshops, and opportunities to experience working on projects for non-profit clients, WDCC offers a vibrant community where you can connect with like-minded individuals and dive deep into the world of technology. WDCC is your one-stop shop for all things tech-related!

University of Auckland Economics Society presents...

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**7 MARCH 2024**  
**5:30PM**  
 OGGB 260-071

Register for this event here:

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# Abstraction and Transformation

## *Biomorphic Beings and the wahine who made it happen*



KIERAN PANUI

The place of art in any given period is up in the air for the sake of its own contention: the spaces we use to create and exhibit such works, what the meaning of art is, and how it functions in relationships between meaning and form are always axioms of discussion.

The recent opening of an exhibition in the Devonport-based Depot Artspace has marked yet another contribution in an infinite conversation on art by wahine youth to contemporary art in Aotearoa New Zealand. *Biomorphic Beings*, the collaboration of fine-arts graduates and budding Tāmaki Makaurau-based artists Sasha Ellis, Kiara Schaumkell, Saskia van Dijk, and Rose Lasham, offers original insight into the themes of bodily function, the metaphysics of the psyche, and the relation of the body as being to natural variables like growth and decay.

Kiara Schaumkell has dedicated her artistic endeavours to the creation of two square works sculptures of 2.1x2.1m each, both titled *Flesh Monolith*. Schaumkell's thesis considers the connection between the body-as-corporeal-being and the disobeying psyche. Decompartmentalising skin as merely a contained vehicle of human consciousness, she forces the viewer to recon with skin as it exists as the *subject*. Art Historian Chari Larsson notes 'as a material substance, wax discourages stable possession', a statement that

poignantly relates to Kiara's medium choice of calico, wax and polyester to create a viscerally realistic effect of contorted, displaced flesh. Her work is an excellent example of conceptual art dematerializing the subject into an ever-still complex form.

Sasha Ellis' work relates the perception of the body to the psyche as the perceptor. Her works *Toilet Vanity*, *Baby Face*, and *Doppelgänger* denote a macabre theme employed with use of bloodied backgrounds and contorted or alienated subjects, or depictions of hospital patients that juxtaposes life and death, relating to the core of *Biomorphic Beings'* purpose: to bring the viewer to the limit of experience in human fragility as physical entities in nature. Ellis studies the psychosomatic experiences of spiritual and psychological depiction through the oil on canvas mediums to elucidate depth, which she does effortlessly.

Fascinated by the concept of *animism* -'the belief that everything on earth has a vital presence and agency'- Rose Lasham is an artist of acrylic on canvas and ceramic sculpture whose work forms an interlude between naturalism and transcendence. Her works *Lichen* and *Far From Home* are examples of paintings delineating the vast complexities of nature, while her ceramic *Epiphloedal Imaginings* collection is a heterodox portrayal of organic life blends phantasmal and organic motifs. Finally, her

acrylic painting *Nourishment* is a fusing of biblical iconography, mutilation, and reinitiation.

Finally, Saskia van Dijk uses an anomalous oeuvre of paintings depicting disidentified subjects in positions removed from the relativity of space and time, elevating them to position of material otherness. *Deity*, *Supine* and *Entanglement* are examples of works which epitomises this effect, drawing on boundaries within the frame to create a sensorial association with the viewer as well as flush hues to disconcert the lines between the subjects' flesh and the background. This detail is utilised by van Dijk as a vessel for a theoretical concept known as "skin-ego", outlined by French Psychoanalyst Didier Anzieu as the juxtaposition between the containment of the psyche and the effect of the skin as the external boundary of our consciousness. This impression is marked yet again in her works *Incandescence* and *Submergence*, both concerning singular, dissociated subjects which purvey a lamenting, disquieted ideal, and fracturing the traditional method of subject depiction and consecrating them amongst the backdrops.

There is a transgressive, unique, and dynamistic set of ideals that furnish the Depot Artspace now, and until March 16th of 2024, you can bear witness to a new mastery of form and essence as I have.



# A Wasian's Journey

Redefining Success Beyond Academic Expectations



SOPHIA IBBETSON

In a world where you are expected to know what you want to do with your life by the time you're 18 and where social media depicts success in a somewhat unhealthy way, many people find themselves lost and juggling multiple hobbies at once. Hi I'm Sophia Ibbetson, a determined young 'wasian' who epitomises the essence of hustle. With five jobs and one blog under my belt, my story is not just about ambition but also about navigating the complexities of cultural expectations and personal discovery.

Growing up in a household with strict Asian and traditional parents, the pressure to excel academically and pursue traditional career paths was always present. My mom envisioned me as a nurse or doctor, while my dad couldn't quite grasp the concept of social media as a legitimate career.

But throughout the 2023 summer holidays, I realised I was far from certain about my future. The conventional path of academic success didn't resonate with me, and I found myself drawn to exploring multiple interests simultaneously.

It all started with a part-time job as a waitress in 2020, the typical job for a university student. Little did I know this job would ignite my passion for food. I became besties with the head chef, tasted the weekly specials every shift, and eventually launched my own food blog, @Hungryhungryakl. Despite initial scepticism from my parents, I persisted, driven by my love for food and the joy of sharing it with others.

Fast forwarding to December 2023, I landed a casual digital marketing job at a health and wellness brand. This opportunity not only provided me with a job where I get to post TikToks and inspiring quotes but

also earned me some acceptance from my parents as an 'adult job' (whatever that is). It was a step towards a more conventional career path, yet I still felt like I was missing something.

I did think about becoming a YouTuber as a passionate entertainer, but I don't have the funds for a camera nor storage on my phone to record, so that idea went out the window.

I guess I have to mention I've been involved in modelling and acting since I was a child. While very casual, this job has been an integral part of my identity, shaping my confidence and creativity along the way. My mum likes to blame the crowd I hang with for wanting to be in the creative field, but I've been in it since I was able to talk.

My fourth job is... well.. this job... I work for this magazine you're reading right now. Maybe I'd enjoy journaling and writing, I said to myself. I got the social media manager position, but I also have the option to write, so here I am attempting to hopefully inspire someone.

Now my parents really liked this title because I work for a magazine instead of posing for one.

My Fifth job is actually a paid blogger and reviewer. I work for a beauty distributor and rate and review their products and get paid for it. This is also very casual but gives me the title "Writer." This was the last and latest job I've secured, and my parents think it's worrying that I have to have multiple jobs in order to survive. Growing up, a secure path seemed to put their minds at ease: excel academically, secure a stable job, and be financially free by 25.

But little do they know, I was stressed out that my CV only had a "waitress" and "model" while I'm in my last semester at uni, so I panicked and applied for jobs and now I'm here writing a hustling article about it.

I still work all the jobs to this day. 5 jobs and one food blog while still trying to complete my last semester of university, praying by the end, I'll find a job and make my parents proud.

I hope that this story resonates within the Asian/wasian community, where the pressure to fulfil familial expectations is often palpable.

To my fellow Asians grappling with similar pressures, I say this: embrace your identity and stay true to yourself. Don't let your parents' values overpower your own, and don't be afraid to pursue multiple passions or explore unconventional paths. Your journey may be challenging, but the rewards are boundless. I can confidently say I have a direction in writing, journalism, or marketing, and I'm so happy. I may not know for sure, but without these multiple hustles, I wouldn't know what the heck I'd be doing.

## This Week on the Craccum Podcast

BENEDICT WEST & ANOUSHKA COULTER

This week we interview Craccum's Editor-in-Chief, Kieran Panui. You will get to meet the man behind the magazine, hear how he has paved his way towards this position and hopefully, we can humanise him.

The 'hustle' edition of the podcast will be all about how students are saving money and

earning money through their ingenious side hustles. We will be talking about the most morally dubious (but legal) side hustles, lambasting the shady ways that you can earn a buck.

We will also be discussing Franco "Bifo" Berardi's theory of semio-capital and its relation

to online hustle culture. In the digital sphere, the way we work has shifted away from the simple trade of time and physical labour into the exchange of symbols. This means that we are constantly connected to our digital work, always contactable on our phones and most notably influencer culture, who trade the external image of the self online as a commodity.



# Less talk, more noodles.

## Your guide to easy Asian noodle recipes.



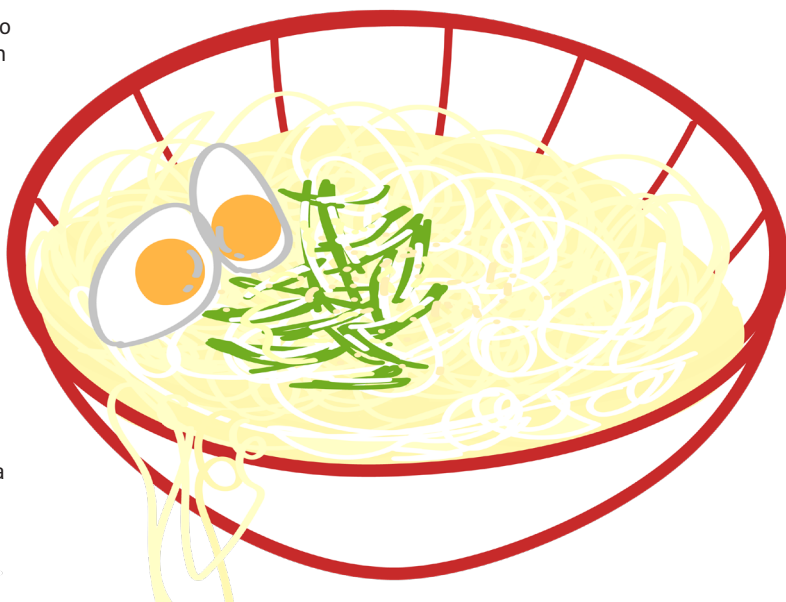
KALA BURGESS

Forget about those quick-fix 2-minute noodles; I'm talking about the real deal - noodles that not only satisfy your cravings but also nourish your body. This is a guide on how to hustle in the kitchen without sacrificing your health, because who has the time to spend hours cooking every day anyway?

While rice might dominate my usual meals, noodles hold a special place in my heart.

I mean my favourite food is Ramen. Whilst I can't whip up a bowl of Ramen at home, I have other recipes that I religiously make. I firmly believe that noodles are the ultimate comfort food. Noodles, after all, are more than just a meal; they symbolize longevity in many Asian cultures, with their elongated form representing a long and healthy life. Who wouldn't want that?

These recipes not only taste good but are also budget-friendly, quick and super easy to make, oh and they might even earn you some extra brownie points with your significant other. So, if you need a lazy yet satisfying meal solution, read on.



### Sesame Soy Somen Noodles

#### Ingredients

Somen - 1 serving  
Soy milk - 100ml  
Water - 50 ml  
Chicken stock powder - 1/2 tsp  
Garlic - 1/2 tsp

#### Toppings

Chilli oil (appropriate amount only if you want it to be slightly spicy)

Cucumber ¼

Boiled egg 1-2

Sesame seeds - appropriate amount

#### Instructions

1. Boil the Somen ( roughly between 1min 30sec - 2 min)
2. Mix the Soy milk, water, chicken stock powder, and garlic in a bowl. Microwave for 2 minutes at 500w.
3. Add your cooked somen to the bowl.
4. Add your desired toppings.

### Gochujung Noodles

#### Ingredients

1 serving of noodles. (any noodles will go with this recipe) (woah so versatile)

2 cloves of garlic

Gochujung paste - 1 tbsp

Soy Sauce - 1 tbsp

Honey -tbsp

#### Additional

Any vegetables or meat

Scallion for garnish.

#### Instructions:

1. Boil your noodles
2. In a pan. Prepare any vegetables/ meat you might want in your noodles.
3. Fry garlic in oil.
4. Add Gochujung paste, Soy Sauce and garlic.
5. Add cooked noodles and your vegetables/meat to your pan with the sauce and mix well.

### Udon Noodles

#### Ingredients

Water - 300ml

Soy sauce - 1 tbsp

Stock powder - 1 tsp

White vinegar + sugar - ¼ teaspoon (3:1 ratio )

Scallions

#### Instructions

1. Boil the udon noodles until soft.
2. In another pot, combine water, Soy sauce, Stock powder, whitevinger+sugar and bring to a boil.
3. Place Udon noodles into a bowl, then pour the broth over the noodles.
4. Add chopped scallions
5. Additionally, add any vegetables/ meat you would like.



Speed dating and speed networking aren't really all that different. From eye contact across the room, to the importance of first impressions—networking is one of the most important parts of getting ahead in your career.

# LinkedIn or Love?

## The Dating Game of Networking



KAAVYA GHOSHAL

### Role-playing isn't just for the bedroom

You've got to keep it exciting. What makes you any different from the person standing next to you? Experience matters (in more ways than one), but what matters most is confidence. If you're going to let imposter syndrome take over and convince yourself that you aren't good enough, then you probably aren't. If you're too scared to make the first move, someone else will. Pick a character and stick to it. Sell yourself hard, and make sure you *believe* what you're saying. First impressions matter; performance anxiety will *not* get you that second date.

### Ass licking should be banned inside the bedroom and out

Self-explanatory, I hope (if it isn't, stay away from me). Whoever you're trying to impress probably has a thousand other people trying to do the same. If you're going to agree with everything they say, you're boring. Have an opinion of your own; if someone disagrees, it's not the end of the world. No one likes a yes-man, and employers definitely don't. I remember an employer telling me that he once made up a story just to see who would pretend to act like it actually happened. Yep, traumatising. Don't kiss ass. It's gross.

### Stalking is cool

Remember that guy who miraculously had the exact same music taste as you? Or the time that they just happened to love reading

the exact genre of rom-com that you did? Yep, you've been stalked. But you know what? That's okay—flattering even (usually)! In the professional world, if you don't find out every minor detail of the person you're trying to impress, you're kind of an idiot. When they bring up an article they wrote 5 years ago, you should be armed with compliments and even a bit of constructive criticism. If you can spend days finding your ex-boyfriend's new girl's dog's name, you can spend a couple of hours researching the person who can hand you your dream job.

### Ghosting and posting

Do you know how it's a reflex to start posting more when you get rejected? While that's a little desperate in the dating world, it's actually smart when it comes to networking. If you're being ghosted by the person to whom you sent your CV, don't waste time crying about it. Hop onto LinkedIn and post about the workshop you attended. Go through that roster I know you've collected and start pushing out your resume. When it comes to your career (and relationships), you don't have time to sit and cry about opportunities lost because new ones will pass you by.

There will be times when you'll swipe right on the wrong job. You might even get dumped by a company, and maybe you won't always be someone's first choice. But just like dating, the world of networking is endless. Whether it's speed dating or speed networking, there's plenty of fish (and opportunities) in the sea.

Speed dating and speed networking aren't really all that different. From eye contact across the room, to the importance of first impressions—networking is one of the most important parts of getting ahead in your career.

I checked my reflection in the mirror. This outfit comes off too strong, I thought to myself. A pencil skirt? What was I thinking? My palms begin to sweat. What if he thinks I'm desperate? Okay, I've made eye contact. They smile. That's a good sign, right? Wow, we're having a lovely conversation. But is it too soon to ask?? Fuck it, I'm saying it.

"I know this may be too soon, but can I have your LinkedIn?"

They said yes!

We've all been there, and if you're someone who wants to get ahead with your career, you will be there at some point. So, here are the ins and outs of making valuable professional connections, from swiping right to success to the subtle art of first impressions.

### The hoe phase

Let's be real. Playing the field is fun. The slight ego boost, the constant eye contact, smiling at everyone you see—we've all been there. When you're first starting to network, you'll probably be swiping right on everyone you see. The only issue? They'll probably forget your name as quickly as you forget theirs. You aren't building connections through futile conversations; you're just building your roster. It's fun to show off, but at the end of the day (apologies to my ex-roster), it's just a number. Instead of finding the CEO, who probably thinks you're trying too hard, find the intern, meet them for a cup of coffee, and figure out how they got their role in the first place.



# HOROSCOPES



CLARICE DE TOLEDO

**T**here will be a lot of different energies taking place this week. Venus and, right after, Mars will be forming a square with Uranus. So, expect the unexpected when it comes to relationships in your life. The beginning of the week can feel more unpredictable and turbulent; you may be feeling frantic trying to get to your lectures on time, making time for friends, as well as trying to earn some extra money with a side job. You may go in between trying to nurture your social life as well as your own private energy; you will be trying to reconcile those two areas of your life.

There will also be a New Moon in Pisces taking place this Sunday, the 10th! New Moons are periods of resets, and they act as new chapters in a new cycle. It will be a fresh start! And because this New Moon is taking place in Pisces, you are more likely to feel more introspective and will want to engage in calming activities like doing something creative, lighting incense, and setting a vibe for the next four weeks ahead.

**Please read your Rising Signs! Very important. See our Instagram Page for the full horoscope!**

## ARIES

You might splurge unexpectedly, like buying lunch at Uni due to forgetting yours. Balancing social life and uni work may keep you busy. On March 10th, Mercury's shift into Aries could spark new interests, shaping your identity. With Mercury retrograding, these themes will dominate the next 3 months.

## TAURUS

You could be receiving more attention on social media and in your surroundings. Changes and decisions about studies and career could be prominent. On March 10th, Mercury's move to Aries might make you feel sensitive and inclined to be reclusive. With Mercury retrograding here, these themes will dominate the next 3 months.

## GEMINI

This week, you might seek solitude to nurture inner peace. Emotionally, delving deeper will be a priority. Sensitivity and attunement to energies may heighten. On March 10th, as Mercury moves to Aries, you may ponder vital friendships and set personal goals, a theme for the next three months.

## CANCER

This week, a strong sense of community may drive you. Deeper conversations and healing initiatives could unfold. Abrupt endings in relationships that haven't been doing good for a while could happen. On March 10th, as Mercury enters Aries, you may gain confidence in communication and excel in networking, a theme for the next three months.

## LEO

This week, career reflections and long-term goals could be occupying your mind. You could be feeling influenced by people from the internet or role models around you. Additionally, you could be developing a crush on a co-worker or a teacher (hahah we've all been there). On March 10th, focus shifts to learning, writing, and communication skills. Buying books and contemplating life's purpose could become prevalent, a theme for the next three months.

## VIRGO

This week, delve into wellness and healing practices, including astrology. Explore new habits like exercise or meditation. Consider books on diets, productivity, yoga, or reiki. Prepare for a busy week with CV writing and communication skills enhancement. On March 10th, as Mercury moves into Aries, expect emotional openness and focus on money, mortality, mental health, and therapy, themes accentuated during Mercury's retrograde over the next three months.

## LIBRA

This week, confidence in a creative skill may spark thoughts of turning it into a business. Emotions, particularly regarding money and relationships, prompt consideration of therapy. Reflections on dating patterns and increased spending on social activities may occur. Feeling self-assured, you could prioritise personal well-being over others' perceptions. On March 10th, as Mercury enters Aries, expect significant conversations and a focus on communication improvement. Learning about relationships and compromise becomes important. These themes will be central during Mercury's retrograde over the next three months.

## SCORPIO

This week, focus shifts to home life, with potential relationship challenges arising. Learning to compromise will be important. You could be introducing partners to family or visiting your family on vacation. On March 10th, as Mercury moves to Aries, productivity optimization and routine establishment take

precedence. Reflecting on diet, physical well-being, and managing anxiety healthily may occur. Mental health and well-being will be central themes during Mercury's retrograde over the next three months.

## SAGITTARIUS

This week, prioritise health and well-being, with a focus on gym workouts and learning about nutrition's impact. Daily routines and habits take centre stage, possibly with a study schedule in the works. While aiming for improvement, embrace spontaneity in everyday life. On March 10th, as Mercury enters Aries, feel creatively inspired and open to new hobbies. Interest in dating psychology and self-exploration may arise. Seek pleasure in activities like reading or games. Expect these themes to remain prominent during Mercury's retrograde over the next three months.

## CAPRICORN

This week, expect increased spending and assertiveness at work. Feelings of creativity may lead to starting a side hobby for some extra money. You might indulge in cocktails with friends and invest in passion projects. On March 10th, Mercury's move to Aries prompts important discussions about home or family matters. Nostalgia about childhood or past events may arise. Reflect on space improvement or moving out. Expect these themes to dominate during Mercury's retrograde over the next three months.

## AQUARIUS

This week, focus on home-related activities like relocating, redecorating, or spending time with family. Expect exciting news or healing within family dynamics. Delve into family heritage and childhood memories. You may have recently visited or plan to visit parents. On March 10th, Mercury's move to Aries brings a flurry of tasks like catching up on uni work, side jobs, and communication. Develop communication and writing skills during this period. Communication and short-distance travel will be significant during Mercury's retrograde over the next three months.

## PISCES

This week, dive into self-help books and mental health/spirituality content to understand your emotions. Engage in journaling, TED Talks, or exploring new places solo for inner peace. On March 10th, Mercury enters Aries, sparking interest in money management and communication for better pay. Reflect on saving and necessary purchases. Financial matters will be prominent during Mercury's retrograde over the next three months.



**LEARN MORE**



# CROSSWORD



## Across

- 2. people have \_\_\_\_\_ issues, when it comes to both relationships and jobs
- 3. you can be intellectual, but without this, you won't move forward
- 5. the act of doing anything but what you're supposed to be doing
- 7. work smarter (and harder), make money faster---this edition!
- 8. you go to these events to sell yourself professionally

## Down

- 1. this, in healthy amounts, is key to keeping your ambition high
- 4. if you want to start your own business, this is what you're called
- 6. a word in Samoan that expresses the cultural tradition of service to the family up.

# SUDOKU

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9PM - 11PM

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