

VOS

Issue 3/07

VOICE OF SANITI

The magazine of the Students' Association of NMIT

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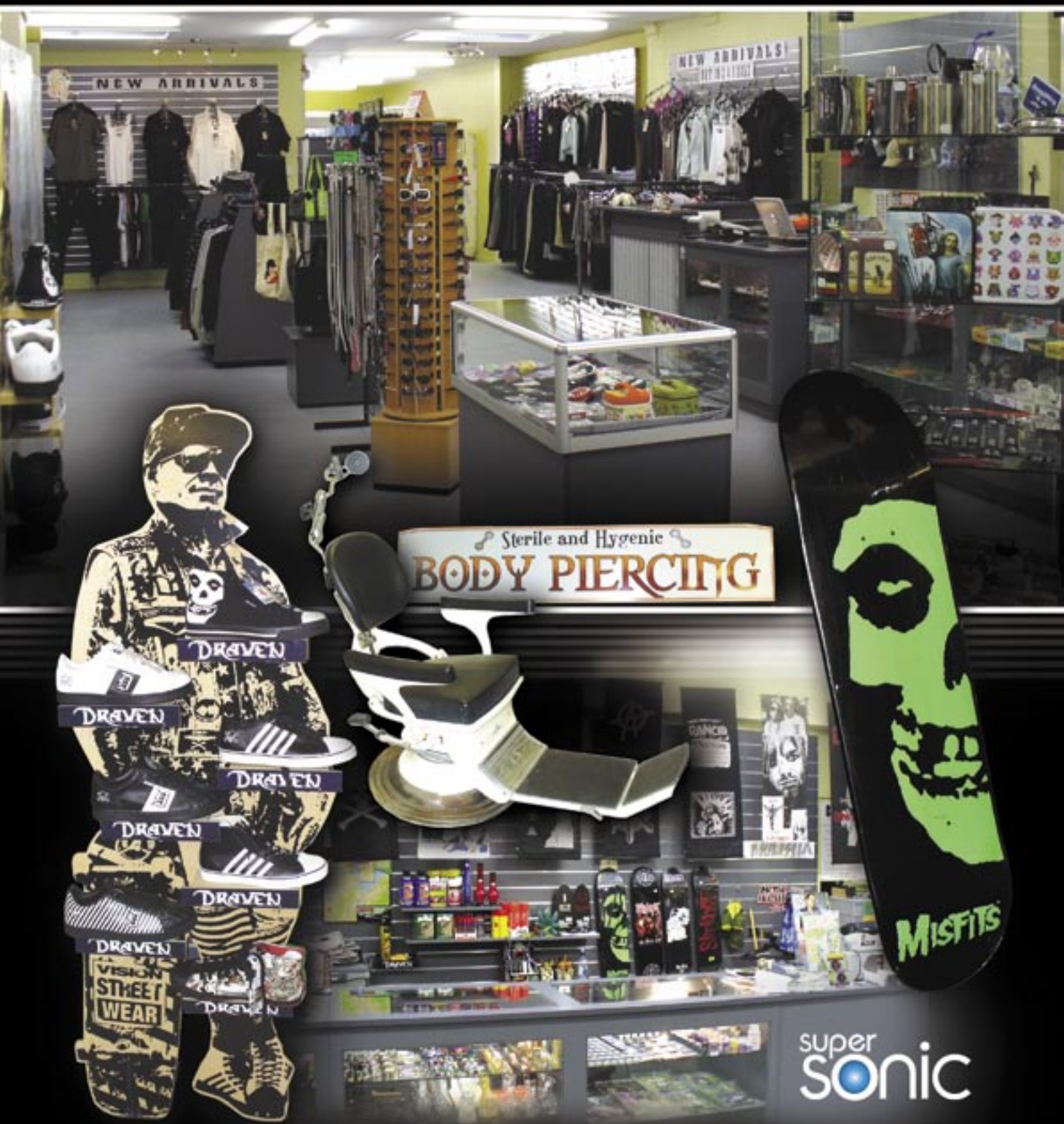
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Vos

Voice of SANITI

Magazine of the Student Association of NMIT

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Da Prez Sez

Students should be disappointed with the budget and the actions of the Labour Government. They have failed to adequately increase funding to the tertiary sector, leaving students with little financial support. Student debt continues to increase as more and more students are forced to borrow simply to pay their rent and buy food. The current rate of student allowance, for which only 30% of all tertiary students qualify, is insufficient, and total student debt now exceeds \$9 billion dollars. Labour had promised that 50% of students would receive an allowance, which makes me wonder - What is the worth of a politician's word when he or she is campaigning for an election? Let's see what they promise this time around.

Discrimination, sexual violence, rape, abuse, hate crimes, homophobia – one woman in four is subject to personal physical or psychological attack at some time and men too are increasingly experiencing fear, abuse and oppression.

Taking part in 'Thursdays in Black' is one way we can all protest against this threat of on-going violence. Thursdays in Black is a weekly campaign run on tertiary campuses across the country, it demands a world without rape and violence, and encourages the development of safer communities. By wearing Black on Thursdays you'll show your support for eliminating all forms of violence.

I'd like to welcome all new students to their studies and I hope everyone who is able has enjoyed the festivities of Orientation week. But now of course it's into the serious stuff – so knuckle down and get yourself educated – and remember SANITI is always here to support you to succeed.

Have a great semester 2,

Allan

Allan Bruning Student President



Cover Pix

Our cover pictures capture 5 years in the life of SANITI the greatest little Student Association in NZ!

L to R from top: Students catch up on campus news when VOS went gloss in April 2006. New students receive goodie bags to welcome them to campus – July 06, fun and games for Orientation week mid 06, Saniti's first ever President Huia Mikaere entertains the crowds during Campus Idol 05, SANITI president Allan with graduating Student Executive Sean O'Keefe (and grandson) Dec 06, Oooh arrgh it's another SANITI BBQ – this time for for St Pats Day, Students protest against fee increases August 05, President Al submits to a trim from hairdressing students Feb 06, Al with the Nelson Campus IT twinnies – Pirate Day 06, Student Pilots at SANITI's Aviation Conference April 06, Saniti staffers will do anything for student entertainment – Allan and Hayden get ready for Drag Racing in Marlborough, Campus Crowds Winter 06 – clearly unable to stand after another big SANITI BBQ bash!

VOS On Campus



1, 2 & 3: International students from Nelson Campus experience The Crusaders in Christchurch in April 4: Toddie brought the Makos to Nelson Campus was captured here is doing a little talent spotting for the youth squad 5 & 6: Congratulations to NMIT Super Yacht Crew students who recently graduated from at Mahurangi Technical Institute 7: Looks & brains! Congrats to Commerce Student & SANITI exec Kate Bradley who graduated in June 8: They started in Richmond in 2006 and graduated in Nelson – congrats to 2007's Trainee Rangers 9: SANITIT executives attend the NZUSA Conference 07 @ Lincoln University in June

SANITI 5th Anniversary

FIVE YEARS OF SANITI... AND COUNTING

This month SANITI – the most appropriately named Student Association in New Zealand (stands for Student Association Nelson-Marlborough Institute of Technology) turns 5, and if you're not sure if that's worth celebrating – I can tell you – it is!

I was a student at NMIT before there was a Student Association and trust me – you don't want to go there. If you had a problem you basically had to try to talk with NMIT management – and let's just say (at the time) that wasn't exactly easy. Thankfully, by the time I graduated, SANITI was up and running – and a number of my co-graduates wouldn't have been at the ceremony had it not been. Since that time I've seen many more students who, for various reasons, were also ready to bail from, or fail in, their studies. With SANITI support however, most have found options and solutions that meant they too have made it to graduation. Eighteen months ago I joined SANITI as Publications and Events manager; this issue I have the privilege of presenting a salute to the little Association that can – SANITI – the first 5 years.

In late 2002 a student referendum supported the establishment of a Student Association to be located on NMIT's Nelson Campus. The Association would be independent of NMIT, funded by student levies, and governed by an elected Student President and Student Executive Council. Staff would be employed to manage day to day duties as required, and the association would exist purely to service the needs and wishes of it's current and future student members. Nominations were called for the available executive positions and in due course Huia Mikaere was elected as SANITI's first ever Student President.

Just before Xmas 2002 Huia, an Office Manager, and a Support Person on loan from the Association of Tertiary Student Associations (ATSA) set up the Student Association in the Student Centre on Nelson Campus. Immediately they started getting systems and processes in place while also handling students' academic and welfare issues and preparing for 2003's Orientation Week festivities. By the time the new students arrived on campus, SANITI was in full swing – already taking student concerns and issues to NMIT Council and staff while at the same time holding class talks and get-togethers to let students know what their Association was all about. Finally, NMIT students had effective representation, support, and nationally recognised clout on campus.

By March 2003, 35 SANITI class representatives were in place and Huia was truly proving her commitment to students – not only acting as an interviewee for the TV and film school but also agreeing to a permanent wave from trainee hairdressers. Now that's going the extra mile! The first SANITI executives were elected & the Association



2007 SANITI Team - Jaycob, Alison, Hayden, Angela and Allan

entered the national student arena by hosting the first ever NZ International Student's forum. In April, when ATSA loan staffer was recalled, daily enquiries to the SANITI office were such that ex NMIT student Kirsten Knight was employed to take over the reception role. One of her first tasks was to set up the student accommodation listing service, which to this day is an essential SANITI service.

By June, 800 students a month were filing through SANITI's doors; most in search of information, support, jobs & accommodation, or with issues that were affecting their studies in a negative way. From recounts to food parcels – SANITI was there, staff even stretched to ensuring Marlborough students (Blenheim Campus & Woodbourne) were visited on a minimum fortnightly basis. Many Nelson students are unaware that NMIT actually has as many students studying off Nelson Campus as on; from North of Auckland to Dunedin, NMIT was training pilots & aircraft engineers, security guards and super yacht crew, animal care students & first aiders. With SANITI handling NMIT campus office enquiries and distant campus students, greater co-ordination, planning and resource accountability was soon needed. When Alison Hart came on board as Office Manager, order quickly followed; to this day she relentlessly hounds anyone unable to supply a \$2 petty cash receipt, and can budget a low cost student BBQ down to the last squeeze of tomato sauce.

In September 2003 the first edition of "The Voice of SANITI" (VOS) was distributed to students on all campuses. Although only a black and white photocopied A4, VOS represented the Association's desire to ensure all students knew of their rights, issues, and support services.

Within 18 months of the Association's establishment, SANITI had organised:

A week long celebration of women in education; the birth of the (now internationally famous) SANITI student BBQ; mid-year and year-end graduation parties; the first ever New Zealand Student Pilot Aviation Conference; and slowly but surely established key community relationships in areas of law, financial assistance, health and social welfare, all in order to be able to assist any student who walked in the

door, phoned, or called for help in any way. In addition to this, SANITI representatives now sat on NMIT Council, the NMIT academic board, a range of NMIT sub committees, the Nelson Youth Council, Student Job Search and the Aotearoa Students' Association to name but a few – all ensuring that NMIT students' views were collected, voiced and heard when and where they needed to be.

In Nov 2004 NMIT (in its infinite wisdom) decided to move the Student Association out of the Student centre. The Association was relocated to a small prefab building across the lawn and to this day is pushing to return students to their

rightful place in the Student Centre.

2005 was a tough year for student pilot funding and required SANITI to respond with a dedicated Distant Campus Liaison Co-ordinator. In the 3 years since taking on the role, Hayden Campbell has become an essential link between the Association and it's distant campus students. In particular, Hayden is the man when it comes to keeping student pilot issues top of mind with the people that count. At this year's NZ Student-Pilot Conference, 50+ student-pilots attended to represent over 600 others studying throughout NZ.

With physical health equally as important to student success as reducing stressful issues, SANITI has, over the years, also provided student microwaves and sofas, shipped BBQ's, outdoor tables, and sporting equipment to distant campuses, and funded graduation events wherever possible. Student Health Checks and Spot Clinics are also Association funded. By 2005 SANITI had extended its social objectives to include contributing to student life on all campuses. The thinking was, and still is: more fun on campus = less stress = better study outcomes.

When ill health forced Huia to retire from the President's in late 2005, Vice President Jaycob Brown graciously (and gracefully) stepped in. Over the next 2 months he and Office Manager Alison Hart, interviewed and assessed applicants for the President's position; a 2 year (plus optional 3rd year) appointment. In January 2006, NMIT Commerce Student Allan Bruning was duly appointed and 18 months later has proven to be a popular and effective choice. Alan represents student interests on NMIT Council, Student Job Search, and the NZ Union of Student Associations (NZUSA) as well as being actively involved with students studying on all NMIT campuses around the country.

So there you go, 5 years of SANITI – and what a long way your Student Association has come. Congratulations to all those who have lived and breathed student support over the years and here's to a fabulous SANITI future. SANITI – supporting NMIT students' success – wherever, whenever and whatever it takes!

SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?

It's not exactly a tale of rats and sinking ships, but the number of qualified Kiwis heading overseas is huge when compared with other OECD countries. Only Ireland and Luxembourg (almost too small to count) come anywhere near having the same number of tertiary graduates living outside their borders, and at almost 25% against Australia's 2.5% the argument that Kiwi flight is just a case of antipodeans wanting to see the world just doesn't stack up.

A 2006 government report confirmed what NZ student associations have been saying for years, that high student debt levels directly relate to graduate decisions to head overseas. The higher the personal debt level, the more likely graduation will be followed by an OE. For medical graduates whose average loan exceeds \$65,000, that equates to an exodus of 2/3rds of all students within 3 years of graduation. And no wonder we have a teacher shortage, even with bonding, over half plan to leave NZ within 5 years in order to pay off student debt.

Even removing the student loan issue, the lure of the OE must be considered a serious factor in drawing away talented Kiwis. While those in the Northern Hemisphere (who can afford it) can country hop in a weekend, Antipodeans must put aside a period of months at the very least, if they plan to explore any further than OZ. Yet for young Kiwis, what might be intended as a temporary international adventure often becomes a permanent economic or career choice to stay abroad and get ahead. Maybe the reason that Aussies don't stay away so long is that there is less of a disparity between career opportunities overseas and the jobs and salaries they can expect to get at home. But with generally low Kiwi wages and even lower 'sunshine-wages' in locations like Nelson (see box*) and Tauranga, is it any wonder that so many young kiwis take a punt on heading offshore? The question is though, do they find what they're after or do they end up spending all their hard-earned cash renting a shared bedsit in Clapham? Is the grass actually greener or does it just look that way from here?



Sunshine Wages

A 2005 survey conducted by Nelson HR Company Fanselow Bell concluded that Nelson wages were roughly 7% below general market rates elsewhere in the country for lower level roles, and up to 15% lower for more senior roles. Add to that astronomical Nelson house prices and rentals, and paying off a student loan becomes harder than ever.



Kate Bradley



Nelson Commerce Student Kate Bradley graduated last month and has already left the country. Majoring in marketing, Kate gave us a couple of reasons for her swift exit, all of which related to the fact that she just didn't see little old NZ as being big enough for her right now. "The job market here only offers lower paid opportunities to graduates. Even top graduates get treated like an inexperienced nobody straight off the street, even though they have years of study behind them. Graduates in NZ aren't given a real go whereas overseas everyone fights to get them and are prepared to pay." On top of career opportunities, Kate cites a few other factors as motivating her into the OE. "Europe is more exciting and closer to everything, and on a higher salary you can just do more." Kate left on a one-way ticket, so

whether she'll bring her talent back to NZ once she's made her fortune (and paid off her student loan) who knows.

For people on the outside, being a student pilot looks like the sexiest study option ever – it seems just sooo cool. But what about graduates – can they land a job easily enough or are they left up in the air with some of the largest student loans in the country? Well here's the tricky bit, pilots graduate with only about quarter of the flying hours they need to get a job with an actual airline, so for most it's a matter of taking low paid work (under \$15 per flying

Aleisha Timmer



Sean O'Keefe



hour) in instructing or tourism, to gather the hundreds of hours they still need. Many end up as far away as Africa, Asia or the Caribbean in search of opportunity. For former NMIT/Bay Flight Student and SANITI student executive Aleisha Timmer, moving to Oz was both easy and difficult. "It's not hard to get going in a job over here as there are some good laws between Oz and NZ that allow you to walk straight into a job." Having said that, converting her NZ Commercial Pilot's license into an Aussie one took considerable time and money. And while she may be earning three times what she's get in NZ the higher cost of living nullifies much of the gain. All up though, Aleisha's having a ball - she instructs international students out of Sydney's Bankstown airport and loves the buzz of new people and new experiences. "...flying over here is a whole other experience. You learn new things, new techniques and see some amazing scenery!" Aleisha gets a bit of stick for being a Kiwi but reckons she can give as good as she gets. Also, should even a trace of Oz accent attach itself to her Kiwi twang, our girl swears she'll be on the next flight home.

Julian Clark



For NMIT Nursing graduate Sean O'Keefe being offered your ultimate job in Perth seemed almost too good to be true. Sean landed a much sought after graduate position at the Fremantle Hospital in Perth where the on-going training far exceeds anything he could have found here at home. However, in spite of the fantastic weather Sean admits that after 6 weeks he and wife Sandra were almost ready to come home. Leaving family and friends to start life in another country is a big step but when you jump straight into a highly stressful and potentially dangerous job as well, it's easy to have a few 'what the...?' moments. As a psych nurse in a big city hospital, Sean is often involved in restraining psychotic or drug-intoxicated patients whose stamina and strength often reach superhuman proportions. And while Sean's salary may look pretty good, the cost of living in Perth soon knocks any notions of luxuries on the head. Even essential food groups like beer cost the earth. With a jug at \$15 and a stubby at \$8.50, Sean's had to take on extra shifts to buy boring stuff like spuds. "Generally we are happy here but may not have made the move if we were aware of all the facts. Now that we're here though we're settling in really well and intend to get the most out of the experience".

Ben Grinstead



And what of those who stay? Ben Grinstead graduated from NMIT with a BIT 2 years ago and has spent the last 18 months working for top Nelson IT company Geni. As an example of stay-at-home graduate success stories, Ben has turned out to be a less than perfect choice. Half way through our chat, he announced that he's just applied for extended leave from Geni and will head for London at the end of July. He's quick to comment that Geni have been great to work for and that he's "learnt heaps" but won't deny that the money and projects available for graduates in the UK are pretty hot. "Basically I'll get the same amount in pounds (£UK) over there as I do in dollars here." However, Ben also reckons that a year's work experience has made him even hotter property than a new-graduate Kiwi would be. With confidence and people skills topping the list of skills sought by employers in all industries we're guessing he's probably right.

On the accounting front, 2006 NMIT graduate Julian Clark found more reasons to stay put than head off. Although admitting that a student loan wasn't a factor for him, and having done his OE in his 20's, 35 year old Julian is established in Nelson and reckons the lifestyle is something he's not ready to trade in. Employed by local accounting firm West Yates, Julian acknowledges that Nelson salaries aren't great shakes but is optimistic this will "even out over the next decade". "Anyhow," he says, "how can you put a dollar value on lifestyle?"

For NMIT Diploma of Tourism graduate Hyeza Kim, career plans were always focused on working in New Zealand. Originally from Korea, Hyeza somehow managed to fit work experience within the tourism industry around her studies in Nelson, so once she had that diploma under her belt, Hyeza was a graduate in hot demand. Currently working for the Sudima Hotel in Christchurch, Hyeza chortles when asked how salaries in Nelson compare with what she can get in Christchurch. In Christchurch, she says, employers truly know how to value a graduate's qualifications and skills.

Hyeza Kim



So there you have it – maybe the stay or go decision really comes down to where your life is at on graduation day. Money isn't everything (although getting rid of student debt is!), and for some the chance to travel after being tied to years of study is just too much to resist. Certainly this bunch of graduates are making the most of their qualifications and the opportunities they provide – we wish them all happy and successful careers.

MOTORHEADS

1. Name ?
2. Course?
3. Vehicle?
4. What do you like to do with your ride?

1. Name ?
2. Course?
3. Vehicle?
4. What do you like to do with your ride?



Dude- must be a bitch getting a park!!



They call her 'Clutch' cause the brain's not engaged when she speaks!!!



Big thanks to Jared for getting the BBQ's for a choice Woodbourne feed!!! Good shit!!!

1. **Luke "The Brain" Yanko**
2. NMIT Aviation Engineering
3. Bell UH-1D Huey Iroquois
4. Just use it to get to course and back.

1. **Hansa "Clutch" Malpathak**
2. NMIT Aviation Engineering
3. Strike-master Mk 88
4. Taking down those annoying boy racers

1. **Jared**
2. NMIT Aviation Engineering
3. 2 litre Toyota Liteace van
4. Turning her into a camper van

1. **Mike "Crash" Soper**
2. NMIT Aviation Engineering
3. The Tug
4. Drag racing



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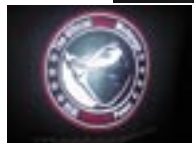
1. Ninjas are mammals.
2. Ninjas fight ALL the time.
3. The purpose of the ninja is to flip out and kill people.



Adrenalin rush all the way dude, right on!



She's a beauty wee wagon you got there Timmy. Look forward to seeing the results!!



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From July 5 to 7, while most Nelson NMIT students were on holiday, 40 student pilots (representing 13 flight-training organisations from all over New Zealand) flew to Nelson to take part in SANITI's 4th Annual New Zealand Student Pilot Conference. Each year, SANITI brings together student representatives from each of NMIT's Aviation providers, in order for them to mix and mingle, and get face to face with learn from key players within the Tertiary and Aviation sectors; this year - for the first time, an invitation to attend was also extended to student pilots from other (non NMIT) aviation training providers - making this SANITI Aviation Conference a truly national event.

Following on from the success of last year's one-day theme - 'Pathways to Employment', SANITI expanded this year's conference into a two-day event; this time focusing primarily on the future of aviation in New Zealand. In spite of the somewhat inclement weather (storms!) on the Wednesday, most students made it into Nelson in time for day one - some even flew themselves in! The Thursday was dedicated to 'tertiary issues facing student pilots' with presentations from: John Laxon of the Tertiary Education Commission, Alan Gill from Aviation Services Ltd, Marie Lockwood from StudyLink, and Joey Randall Co-President of the NZ Union of Student Associations also in attendance. The day ended with a formal dinner at Fern Lodge, kindly sponsored by NMIT.

On the Friday the conference focus explored the future of

employment and careers available for graduating students within New Zealand Aviation. SANITI was fortunate to have assembled an absolutely stellar list of industry professionals including: Stuart Horner (Aviation, Tourism & Travel Training Organisation), Irene King (Aviation Industry Association/Aviation Careers Ltd), John Lenaghan (Mt Cook), Massey Lynch (Eagle Air), Kevin Riley (Air Nelson), Willie Sage (Vincent Aviation), Jeanette Lusty (Nelson Helicopters) and last but not least, former NMIT student, now private jet pilot - Nick Anderson.

That night the students got to let their hair down and took part in the now famous after-conference bash; a fancy dress affair where everyone was required to dress as 'something beginning with A'. It was awesome to see that everyone got into the spirit of the occasion - even if there were a few more 'Arabs' than expected.

Big thanks must go to NMIT and Aviation Careers Ltd for their support of the conference, as well as to ATTO, House of Travel and StudyLink for sponsoring the super sexy souvenir t-shirts. As a major SANITI event, thanks must particularly go to the staff and volunteers who toiled away for months in advance to make NZSPC 07 a reality and who hardly slept during the event ensuring that everyone was cared for, and the conference a success. In particular credit must go yet again to Hayden Campbell, SANITI's Distant Campus Liaison Coordinator; without his dedication, enthusiasm and mana, NZSPCA would just not be possible.



WWW.AVIATIONCAREERS.CO.NZ



- 1 (LtoR) Hayden Lowe from Air New Plymouth, Tracey Gore and Allanah Gore from Air Waikato
- 2 Jason Howarth aka the 'Air Guitarist' from Air Waikato blasts a riff in to the SANITI Pres AI's eardrum
- 3 The Ardmore boys (LtoR) Byron Murgatroyd, Josh Brinkmann and Veenay Mani
- 4 Post conference fall out everyone looks pretty good for 7am on a Saturday morning on the way to the airport
- 5 The students get into the spirit of SANITI's famous Aviation quiz
- 6&7 For the first time this year groups of students flew themselves down to the conference
- 8 Chris Newson and Joshua Brinkmann aka "An Aussie" and "Anchorman" strike a pose at The Something beginning with 'A' party
- 9 (LtoR) Ashliegh Fergus, Kane Cairncross, Asha Norman, Jo Lambert and Daniel Stark
- 10 Students from Air Hawkes Bay affiliated to the Eastern Institute of Technology in Hastings
- 11 Allan Gill from Aviation Services Limited
- 12 Marie Lockwood from StudyLink
- 13 Massey Lynch from Eagle Air delivers his presentation
- 14 Always a conference favorite Willie Sage from Vincent Aviation





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- Start to get ready to become a non-smoker by only smoking in one place – and make it the grottiest, coldest place at home or work. Make the rest of your home, car, & study zones smokefree
- Start feeding your brain with positive messages: "I'm only going to do healthy things for my body" or "I'm only breathing fresh air into my lungs". Start saying this to yourself even when you're still smoking. Pretty soon you'll find that your brain will be changing what you do, even without your effort
- Start exercising – even walking. It will help to give you another coping mechanism when frustrations set in (and something to do rather than light up), and it'll help with weight control. People who exercise when they're quitting have less weight gain
- Call the Quitline 0800 778 778. It's a free quitting support service with loads of information and people who will help you quit. They also have subsidized Nicotine Replacement Therapy which gives higher success in quitting. Go to quit.org.nz to get started or contact NMIT Health Nurse Alison Horn on Nelson Campus
- If at first you don't succeed – keep trying! Many people take several quit attempts and each one takes you closer to totally quitting. Never give up quitting attempts – one cigarette doesn't mean you've failed.

You can do it – just get started – now!

SMOKEFREE WINNER!



Business Admin Student Ana Neru was a winner on Smokefree day on Nelson Campus.

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Being a Marlborough lad living in the big smoke, I've always gotten a bit of stick from Nelsonians in regards to Blenheim

being a slow boring, one horse, predictable town when compared to the hustle and bustle & big city lights of Nelson - yeh right! So when I learned that Marlborough's Certificate in Professional Hairdressing Students were working behind the scenes in one of the most original, dynamic, home-grown New Zealand stage shows of the millennium, I jumped at the chance to showcase my fellow Marlbarians talent.

War Child is the stage show created by popular British actor/writer/ director Gavin Richards - probably best known for his work in the role of Captain Bertorelli in the sitcom 'Allo Allo' but also familiar to soap opera lovers as Terry Raymond from East Enders. Richards is now a Marlborough resident and has created the show through a workshop he held with Marlborough College students in which they expressed their interest in the plight of children around the world who are forced into becoming soldiers. Part rock-show, part play, & inter-cut with gripping documentary footage, War Child is a truly unique production and one that has wowed Marlborough audiences into a record-setting 8 standing ovations in a row. It's also a great vehicle for showcasing the exceptional talents of Marlborough teenagers

and our very own NMIT hairdressing students.

Every night before the curtain went up, Marlborough hairdressing students were behind the scenes: crimping, braiding, straightening, and styling the young actors' hair. Over the show's eight-day run, each student took turns volunteering their time to do the actors' hair while dedicated tutors - Raewyn Hunter and Lisa McKenzie, were also on hand to offer support and advice. On an average night the tutors and the students had anywhere from 20 to 30 actors to style in the space of an hour. According to Raewyn, "Time was critical, so the students got valuable experience in time management and working under pressure in order to meet the show's deadlines".

This is the first year that NMIT has offered the Certificate in Professional Hairdressing in Marlborough, - much to the delight of the 12 current students, most of whom would previously have had to move to Nelson to pursue their studies. On the day I turned up, the students had just finished a crash course in dealing with clients with special needs. Tutor Raewyn had half of the students



dress up and act the roles of real world clients with special needs; ranging from a blind person, to a mother with a young baby, to a person with ADHD. The exercise was a chance for the students to learn how to deal with the range of clients they're likely to encounter once they're out in the workforce. According to Raewyn, "Hairdressers have to be prepared for anything and everything. A hairdresser isn't just someone who just cuts and styles your hair - the biggest part of being a good hairdresser is being able to communicate with your clients on all different levels".

Anyone within reach of the Marlborough campus can check out the talents of the region's first ever class of Year 1 Hairdressing students for themselves. The Salon is open to the public each Tuesday from one til six.

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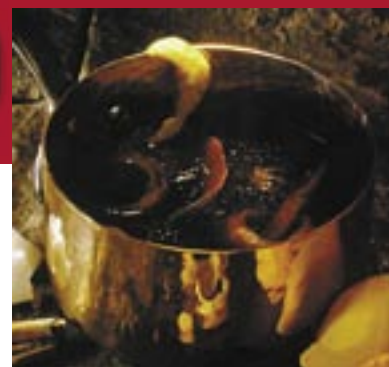
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DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT JUSTICE

VOS TO DRINK?

with local wine guru Neil Hodgson



Winter, A Great Time To Mull Things Over...

Mulled wine is a great way to warm your insides on any bleak winter's day (when operating heavy machinery or using an axe are not in question). The process of 'mulling' wine dates back to medieval times when it was considered a healthy option. Considering wine at the time was more sanitary than drinking water, I guess that's hardly surprising. Nowadays, because fish do naughty things in water - I still think we should all drink more wine. Add in the benefits of a few herbs and spices & suddenly mulled wine is looking (almost) like a hot new entry to the food pyramid.

Generally, I like my wine straight-up - no additives, and purchased by the bottle. However, when you're creating mulled wine there's no point buying decent wine when you're just going to adulterate it anyway. This is heresy for me, and probably the only time you'll hear these words mumbled through my gritted teeth - but, because I know students have lots of friends and not a huge amount of spare cash, I will, just this once, recommend you pick up a CASK of full bodied red wine for use as the mulled wine base.

Before you get started, here are a few simple rules to mull over:



1. Quantity - Work out how many people you're making wine for and then double the amount of wine you buy - people will always drink more than you think.
2. If it's boiled it's spoiled - never, ever, let the wine boil or the flavours of the wine/spice combination will deteriorate.
3. Sweetness - make sure you add some sugar, it soothes the tangy flavor that the mulled wine expresses after being warmed up.
4. Play - experiment with spices and eventually you'll find a blend you love. Write down the ingredients so you can make it again, or better still, give the recipe to friends so they can make it and invite you to their party.
5. Be careful - mulled wine goes down way toooo easy. Make sure you're not driving and don't go out in the snow!
6. Remember your priorities - invite me to the party!

The recipe here comes from Stacy Slinkard who looks after the wine section on the great www.about.com website.

The Banshee - Mulled Wine for Halloween.

INGREDIENTS:

- A cask of cheap Aussie red will do for several batches
- One peeled and sliced orange (keep peel to add zest to the cooking pot)
- One peeled and sliced lemon (again keep the peel to add zest)
- 1 tsp ground nutmeg
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- 5 whole cloves
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- 1/2 cup sugar (or honey)
- 2/3 cup brandy or cognac
- 1/2 cup water



PREPARATION:

Combine all ingredients in either a large pot or a slow cooker. Gently warm the ingredients on low to medium heat (avoid boiling) for 20-25 minutes. Stir occasionally to make sure that the honey or sugar has completely dissolved. When the wine is steaming and the ingredients have blended well it's ready to serve. Ladle into mugs (leaving the seasonings behind), garnish with an orange segment and enjoy!





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Re: Views

BY THE ONE AND ONLY ANONYMOUS TICKET SLAPPA!



You know what? All this branching out into different realms of entertainment has truly gone to my head! Yes it has! From movie reviews, to telly – and now – live theatre! This month I decided to take the trip across the strait to catch Maui, one man against the gods – honestly, the things I do to satisfy my vast readership. Then again, who am I to resist the chance to watch scantily clad people frolic around on stage for my voyeuristic pleasure – and with a storyline! Yes! Oh god yes – why isn't life like that all the time?



The stage show itself has been around for a couple of years and has been worked on continually. This means the final product is both uniquely New Zealand, and based firmly on Maori storytelling. One of the biggest impressions this play made on me happened even before the curtain went up. Waiting to go in I was struck by the amazing diversity of the audience. Sure there we're heaps of Maori whanau there – I mean heaps – but there was also a cool cross section of the community; people from all walks of life. This was a pretty good indication of the play's ability to be enjoyed by a large section of NZers – nice! And, to top things off, the venue (The St James) has a bar in the foyer – a large bar. Hooray!



Another thing that struck me was just how much classier the St James is than your humble movie theatre. Oh, and the bell ringing to tell you to go to your seat, oooh la, la, I felt like royalty. Furthermore, due to the well placed connections of my cousin (who went with me), our seats were in the second to front row (Right next to a woman who used to get her hair cut by one of the main characters – classeeey I tell you).



Maui, one man against the gods tells the story of the birth, life and death of the legendary Polynesian demi-god Maui. The show itself is mostly in Maori with one of the main characters 'Ra' providing the English narration. Not speaking Maori myself, I found that I still understood what was happening. There was also a brief supplied for each act. If you were born in New Zealand, chances are you'll recognize one or two words and already know a bit about Maui and what he got up to. All together, the show was highly kinetic, with movement not only on the stage but also around it, and above it! Aerial displays abounded and this pushed the action right out into the audience. Which unfortunately, brings me to the one and only moan I have about the experience. At half-time I changed seats (swapped with the fam) and sat in the stalls at the back. Up until then I had never suffered from vertigo, but gawd – why do they even have seats up there? The character Hine-nui-Te Po (goddess of death) was suspended on wires a lot, but much of this was lost to stall sitters who lost view of her completely past a certain point. I certainly hope they got a discount! This tiny point aside, there's little doubt that Maui is not to be missed – at times it even brought a tear to this old ticketslappa's eye & made me feel that New Zealand had all grown up – (sigh) The show was polished, professional and well presented; the story was engaging and the legend was truly and beautifully, brought to life. On a strictly personal note, the guy who played Maui wasn't bad either – definitely worth an additional half a slapper on his own. So that's Four and a half slappa's outta five and well worth a visit to Wellytown for the experience.



GRADUATE PROFILE

*SANITI President Allan Bruning tracks down
Vet Nursing Graduates: Joe Hannah (2006) &
Alex Venicombe (2007)*

Describing herself as “a tad over 20”, Joanne Hannah has indeed experienced the riches of world travel – from the mosquito-infested highlands of Peru to the many bars of London, from the harsh wastelands of the Egyptian desert to the bustling streets of Hong Kong. But why would anyone give up the excitement of overseas travel to become a student at back home at NMIT? Joe tells it straight – “I was sick of working for the sake of just earning money and wanted to do something I really enjoy – and that’s working with animals.”

Starting with the Certificate in Animal Care in July 2005, Joe went on to complete the diploma in Vet Nursing in 2006. According to Joe, her tutors were a great bunch of people who “knew what they were saying and knew how to transfer that knowledge to their students”. Joe and her classmates were one of the last groups to study on NMIT’s Richmond Campus and many have stayed in touch. Course tutor Annette McFadgen describes Joe as having been a very determined student who was confident in her work, and knew what she wanted to do.

Raised on a farm near the tiny inland West Coast settlement of Totara Flat, Joe was around animals from an early age & horse riding at just 7. Being so involved with livestock, Joe’s career aim was to become a large-animal technician; leaving school she landed a job herd testing cows. “You take milk samples from a herd of cows to test the quality of the milk”. I asked her if she had ever milked a bull. “I know the difference between milking a cow and helping a bull get off”. At one point Joe was also working on a dairy farm, but that fell through after one season when the farm went belly-up. “I guess you could say the milk job went sour”, she jokes.

Moving to Nelson with overseas travel on her mind, Joe worked at Sealord to fund her trips abroad, often returning just long enough to plan her next excursion and earn the money she’d need. But although the work/travel lifestyle was exciting, it was a short stint managing her brother’s farm that re-ignited Joe’s desire to work with animals full-time and led her to ditch travel for full-time study.

Beginning with the Certificate in Animal Care, Joe studied the anatomy and internal workings of animals, learnt how to handle different species, and enjoyed clinical placements at both CRT and the RDA, the latter being “a great way to gain hands on experience”. One memorable moment at CRT was performing a horse autopsy. She had to take photos, hold bits of horse out of the way and handle the organs. “They were huge” (Now, now!!! – she’s referring to the heart, liver and lungs you dirty minded freaks). “It was really cool shit, heaps of blood and guts all over the place. My job was also to keep the flies off, that’s because the autopsy was performed out in the paddock!”

At the end of 2006 Joe took up a six months stint at a Stud farm in Cambridge where her main work was horse handling along with the inevitable stable feeding & shit shoveling. She worked with about 170 wet mares (or pregnant horses) and 100 dry mares (not preggers yet). And check this out guys; they only had four stallions to do all that biz....some lucky horsie fellas they are!!! Joe lived on the farm and monitored the horses daily, often risking life and limb when the hormonally charged mares got temperamental. Hard work, I asked? “Hell yes. I even lost 10 kilos and wore out 2 pairs of boots”. Joe is currently working at the Vet Services and Equine Hospital in Matamata, not far from where she worked on the stud farm. “I’ve gotten to know most of the Vets in this area and it’s an ideal place to come back and work in later. I’d like to stay here for a year then explore my options”. An impressive graduate indeed!

And what of this year’s crop of vet nursing graduates? Well according to Alex Venicombe who graduated just last month, one of the best things about the course was the



Alex and friend on campus



Jo (left) at her graduation in '06.

tutors. “Annette has so many interesting stories that are educational and informative, I really learnt a lot from her sharing her experiences with us. Then there’s the work experience in the vet clinics, it gets us out of the class once a week and into real life – and what other course lets you bring animals to class?” Alex is currently doing some hours at the Gladstone Rd Vet Centre and hopes to stay on and get more work with larger animals.

As SANITI President it’s always a pleasure talking with former students who are putting their qualifications to use – I wish Joe and Alex a prosperous future.



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WELL, I... AHA.. I BET YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ONE THIS LONG

EEEK! WHAT IS IT!!



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TO BE CONTINUED...



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STUDENT INTERVIEW: SANITI's Jaycob Brown talks to a Nelson student who's truly at the cutting edge of her studies



Jessica Barns

Career status:

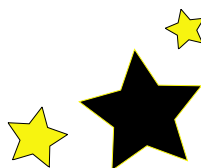
NMIT Hairdressing Student & Intermediate Stylist @ award- winning Ursula Harris Hair

Life Status:

17 years old, gorgeous, blonde & peppy as!

Galaxy status:

Total rising star!



So... what class are you in?

2nd year & 3rd year at the same time!

What made you want to be a hairdresser?

I always wanted to be a hairdresser - since I was little, it must be in the blood or something

How long have you been working in the industry?

About a year & a half, since January '06

What's the Nelson scene like?

The Nelson scene? Well, it's competitive in a healthy way; it's exciting & inspiring - but there just doesn't seem to be enough male stylists! The turn out in quality in comps is getting better & better - younger people seem to be stepping up too, which is cool

How much preparation did you have to do for the L'Oreal Talent Spotting comps?

There's heaps of prep involved. Lunchtimes, weekends, after work - not only with hair but also for the make-up & clothes - plus this time we had to choreograph a dance. Lots of models & lots of hard work, but thankfully our team was great, everyone brought different skills to the whole & because of this, we did well.

Is this the first time you've entered something like this?

A team one yes, a comp no

What others have there been?

I've entered the Wella YPS awards twice, plus the NZARH (NZ Assn of Registered Hairdressers) comps & placed 1st in the Apprentice Evening Hair section & 2nd in the Oceanic haircut. Our salon is very team-orientated & competition focussed & that pushes you to get better & better

What's your favourite part of the job?

Free hair cuts. No really, I think being able to create stuff day to day with no rules & restrictions is something I love to do. Meeting people is the best! & I love talking!

So Jess, where to from here?

Hopefully to the finals in Auckland! & to pass on everything I learn to other people

Finally, what would be your best piece of sage hair advice to combat those bad hair days?

Hmmmm that's a tricky one. Some people have good hair that doesn't require much styling or attention. I'd say stick to what you know - if you have questions ask your stylist & pay attention to what they say. Instead of wanting what you don't have, work with what you've got - not against it!

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