

Point

Issue 3 July 2015

Blank



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**FURTHER
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**YOUTH
ENGAGEMENT**



Letter from Laverton Youth Foundation

Time seems to be flying this year, with June already upon us and Point Blank Youth Magazine being in full swing; it has been an awesome ride so far. What more can I say about this edition except for, wow! I have no doubts that the content within these pages will capture your imagination and inspire you.

What I really love about this publication is the way the magazine and its writers dance with their creative thoughts. Quite simply it embodies imagination and freedom; PBYM really comes from the heart, it is raw and real, and fluid in nature.

The future of the magazine looks bright, with many new additions to our support base, and we are now in the process of introducing Point Blank Youth Art. These workshops run parallel with our writing workshop every Wednesday afternoon from 3:30pm to 6pm at Wyndham Community and education Centre at 4 Synnot Street (extension) in Werribee. So if the arts really get you going, please, contact us.

On to the formalities; First and foremost well done to our wonderful and talented young writers for producing another world class magazine – you guys are truly brilliant. Thank you to our sponsors including Feder-

ation University, Joanne Ryan MP, Jill Hennessy MP, Altona, Laverton and Point Cook Community Bank, LeadOn Australia, Altona Yacht Club and our lead agency and Auspice, Laverton Community Integrated Services.

A special mention also to the Sidney Myer Foundation, who really believed in our original concept of unlocking the potential within our local youth, and helped us to get our concept off the ground.

Finally, thank you to our program partner, Wyndham Community and Education Centre, and the newest members of our PBYM mentoring team, Remo Pitisano, and Camilo Perez. Remo, mate, you've really put in some hard yakka over the past three months and we are all very appreciative; we could not have completed this edition without you.

If you don't happen to get your hands on one of our print publications that you can keep, you can always obtain a digital copy of our magazine by heading to www.pointblankyouthmagazine.com.au, please also feel free to like and share us on facebook, your support inspires our progression.

That's it from me for now, until next time.
Dream Out Loud,



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Be Committed, Be Accountable,

Be Open Minded

Aspire to be Inspiring

BY JESS RAE

We all look for someone who inspires us to be the best we can be, to reach our goals, and to be like in one way or another. They may be someone of great importance, perhaps someone famous, someone you know, a family member or even a friend. Regardless of who they may be, you hope that a little of their inspiration is within you. But what if the situation was reversed? What qualities do you see in yourself that could make you someone else's inspiration?

So many of us choose not to share our qualities because, in today's society, it's called being "vain" if you talk highly of yourself—isn't that funny? We are now programmed to think that it's wrong to express our values, traits and self-

worth, simply because we are afraid of being labelled as conceited and egocentric. When really, we should be promoting self-confidence, pride and individuality, not shaming each other for being ourselves.

Being the person you are is what makes you

ration. Set goals and targets and reward yourself when you've achieved them. Don't be afraid to celebrate your success, regardless of what it may be and ignore any negativity that comes your way, it is not worth your time. If you haven't got one

ONE OF THE MOST COMMON WAYS TO SHARE INSPIRATION IS THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA.

unique and what can make you an inspiration to someone. Your decisions, actions and use of words represent you and heavily influence how you are perceived by others.

Be your own inspi-

already, find a hobby or an interest and set mini-milestones to reach them. That way, you'll be inspiring yourself by actually achieving goals and by motivating yourself to keep going. When others see that, they feel

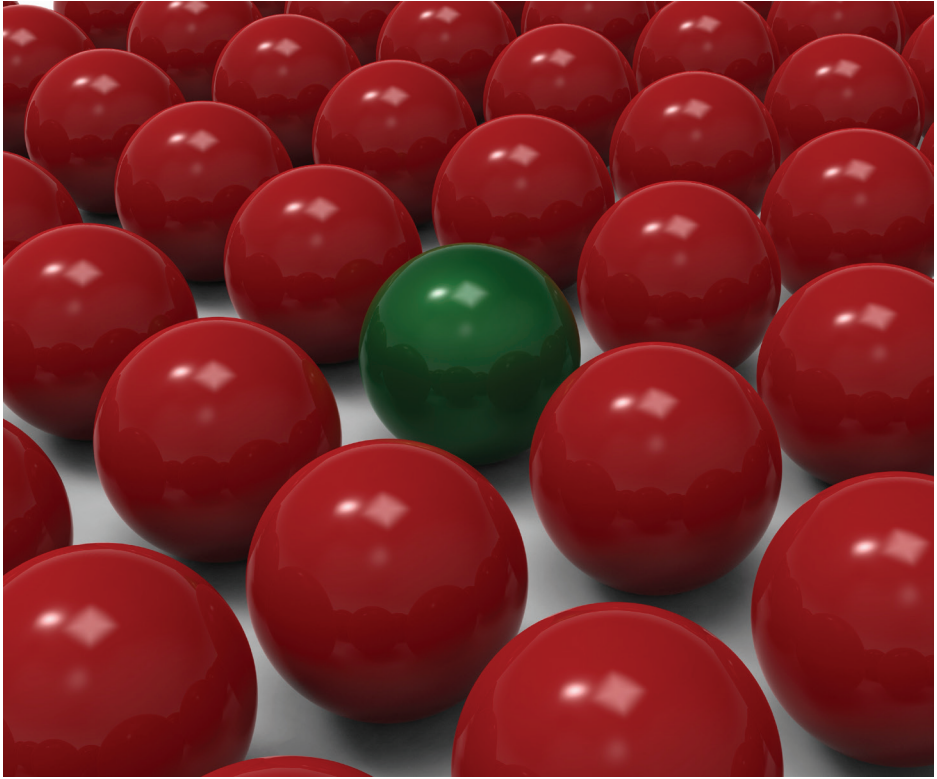
inspired to do the same. One of the most common ways to share inspiration is through social media. Compared to all of the negative ways the internet is used, you can be a part of the community of people who use

it for something worthy of being shared. Posting thoughts, feelings, inspiring stories and achievements can dramatically impact others and help people on the same path as you.

The most rewarding

part of aspiring to inspire is that you contribute to society rather than working specifically to gain something in return. It's giving something for nothing except gratitude and knowing you are important to someone. Just like someone you may look up to is important to you, there is someone out there looking for someone to be like, or someone to help them find the motivation to get started. You can be





ASEXUALITY

BY JAZZ RIZZO

ASEXUALITY

YOU MAY NOT HAVE HEARD OF IT,
BUT IT'S REAL - AND IT'S SOME-
THING I LIVE WITH EVERY DAY.

WHAT IS ASEXUALITY?

For those of you who don't know, Asexuality means that you do not experience sexual attraction. There's an estimated one asexual in every 100 people, as opposed to one in five homo/bisexuals. It's quite simple really- some like girls, some like boys, some like both, and some like none. And just like any other sexuality, it's a part of who we are; we can't change or control it.

We do, however, experience romantic attraction. This is something many people struggle to understand. I suppose it's like really wanting to have sex with someone, but not wanting to get into a serious relationship with them, only the other way around. An asexual may fall in love, but that doesn't mean that they want you in bed. However, about 22% of asexuals are aromantic, so they don't experience romantic attraction. I'm Pan-romantic, so I like males, females and genderqueer.

REALISATION

I realised that I was asexual when I was fifteen, but I had a feeling I was different since my twelfth birthday. I had just started high

school, and just gotten my first boyfriend. As with most seventh year relationships, it lasted a whole of two weeks. We broke up because I wouldn't make-out with him. I didn't understand the fuss about it, but apparently it's important. Meh... I don't get it.

It was around this time that my peers were talking about sex. Every. Day. It really got me thinking; why wasn't I like them? Why didn't I care about getting laid? Why was everyone so sexualised? What's the deal, man!? Being asexual can be confusing. Everywhere you look you see sex. When you watch T.V., there's sex. When you're driving along the highway you see those classic "Want longer lasting sex?" billboards. You go to school and everyone's talking about how much they want to get laid – or how they had "mind-blowing sex" at that party, or making you feel bad for being a virgin. Even when you listen to music someone's talking about sex. And here you are, sitting in the middle of all of this, acting like you understand why blow-jobs are not grossly unhygienic, and a small part of you just wants to scream. I went on like this, just pretending to be what society calls "normal". I

felt completely alone; almost alien.

Sometime in Year Eight I sought out the help of my dear old mother, and asked her why I felt so different to everyone else. I don't know if she remembers, but she said "You just aren't as mature as the other girls. One day you'll want to go out to clubs and get a boyfriend just like your step-sister."

This pissed me off. How was I not as mature as them? I was the one who was studying Year Ten Maths, had a Year Eleven average in English, and kicked some serious ass in the school's public speaking competition for speaking out against exploitation, child abuse and religion's involvement in politics whilst everyone else spoke about how great it is that kids know how to use iPads. There's a war in the Middle East and I'm supposed to be dreaming of that sparkly vampire's smouldering eyes? Forgive me for being a snob, but c'mon! After a while I decided to let it be. I convinced myself that I just needed to wait for the right person.

By the time I'd started Year Ten I decided that I was too different. It was somewhere between numerous sex-ed classes and realising that I was the

only one of my friends who didn't watch porn and/or masturbate that I decided to turn to the lovely old fellow named Internet. Somewhere along the way I found a quiz titled 'Are You Asexual?' Curious, I clicked on the link, and discovered that I was, likely, asexual. After googling asexuality and coming across a website aptly named Asexuality.org, I had no further doubts. Bless the internet.

COMING OUT

Coming out is different for everyone. I was lucky in this respect. The first person I went to was my best friend (and ex-boyfriend). He, like me a few months earlier, had never heard of asexuality. After a brief conversation he, being a man of many words, said "cool".

So after more approval from close friends, I took to Facebook. I didn't want

to hide anymore. I wanted everyone to know who I was and that I was perfectly fine with it, and that if they didn't like it they could shove it up their ignorant backside. After a lengthy status, it was done. And things went well from there. Especially considering a very good friend of mine suddenly started messaging me like a madman raving about how proud she is of me, and considerably mentioned that she, too, was asexual. I was over the moon! Seriously! One in 100 people are asexual, and one of my best friends just happens to be asexual. Things don't get much better than that.

In a momentary lapse of reason I realised that I had forgotten to mention any of this to my mother. So I approached her and explained. It wasn't a long conversation, but one thing I remember is how she laughed and said "at least I don't have to worry about you coming home pregnant!" After a while I did mention my sexuality to my step-father. He gave a particularly lengthy speech, comprising of the words "Ok then". I'm still not sure of his attitude towards it, but he seems liberal, so I'm happy.

HERE ARE SOME THINGS I HEAR PRETTY MUCH EVERY DAY:

- ① "How do you know if you've never tried it?" Really?
- ② "It will come one day." Said no one to the heterosexual teenager.
- ③ "Were you sexually abused as a child?" Were you dropped on your head as a child?
- ④ "Do you masturbate?" When is that ever an appropriate question?
- ⑤ "Is that an emo thing?" I have no idea where you got that from.
- ⑥ "You just haven't met the right person yet" And when I do we will live happy, sexless lives.
- ⑦ "Asexuality doesn't exist." See above.
- ⑧ "Is that part of your religion?" I'm an atheist. Religion is against my religion.
- ⑨ "Does that mean you like animals?" Nope.
- ⑩ "I didn't know boys could be asexual too – boys seem so much more sexual than girls." This is what you sound like: "I didn't know gay people could be boys – boys seem to like girls so much more than boys."

DISCRIMINATION & IGNORANCE

Here's where things get ugly. As with anything that isn't deemed 'socially acceptable', there will be those bigots who feel the need to bully people physically and mentally because it's "against nature" or "against their religion". Sometimes people say mean things to me without even meaning to be offensive. Sometimes people say things that aren't offensive, but are so annoying it makes you want die.

Sometimes this gets taken way too far. I've been cyber bullied and verbally abused over my sexuality. I was in a relationship with someone who was so obsessed with "converting me out of Asexuality" that I was pinned down to a bed and snogged and fondled because he was convinced that I would just "get used to it". Asexual/non-asexual relationships can work, you just need to understand each others' needs and compromise. The trick is to not go out with someone you just met (apologies for the Frozen reference).

Regardless of your sexuality, facing aversion is something that almost everybody will have to do one

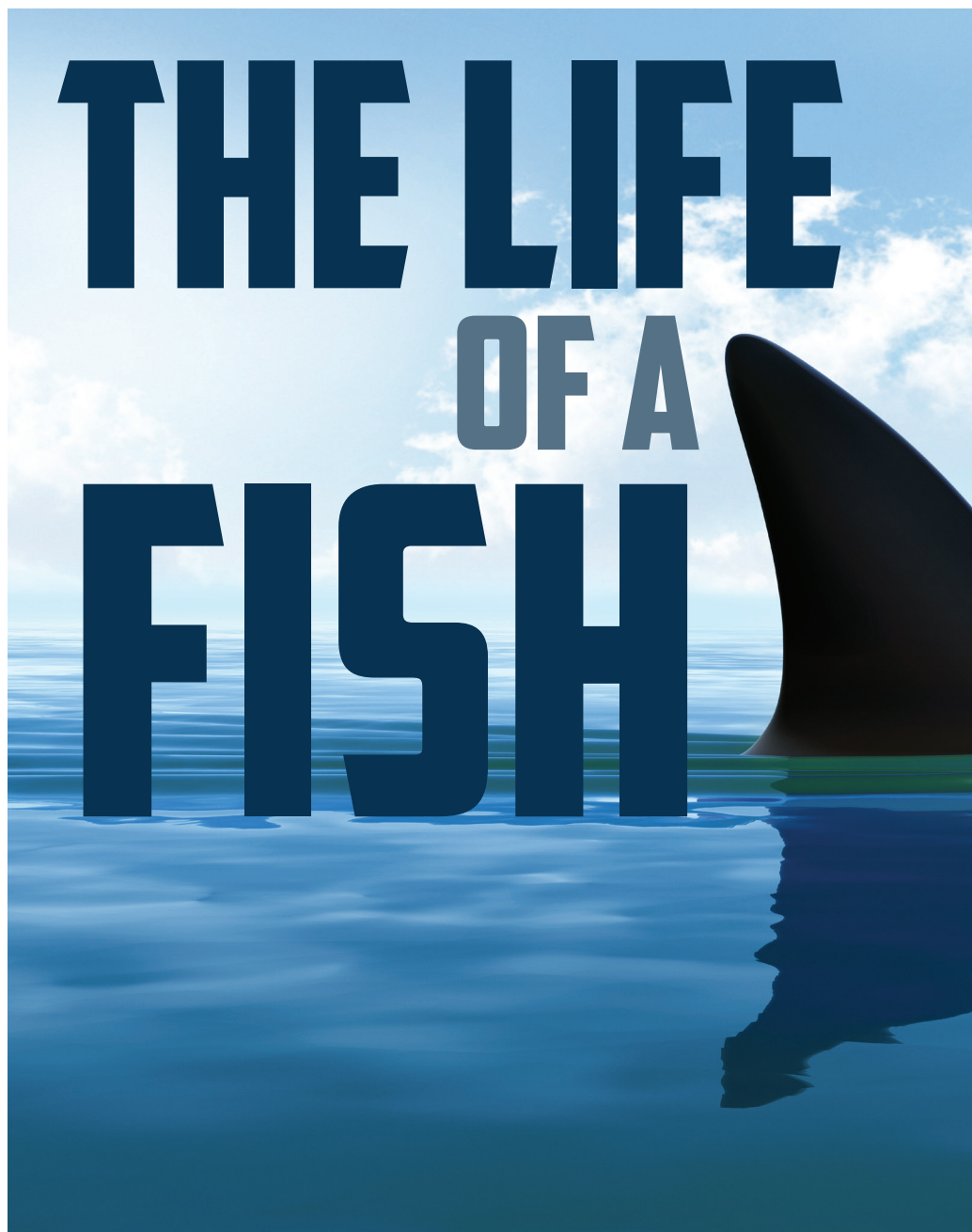


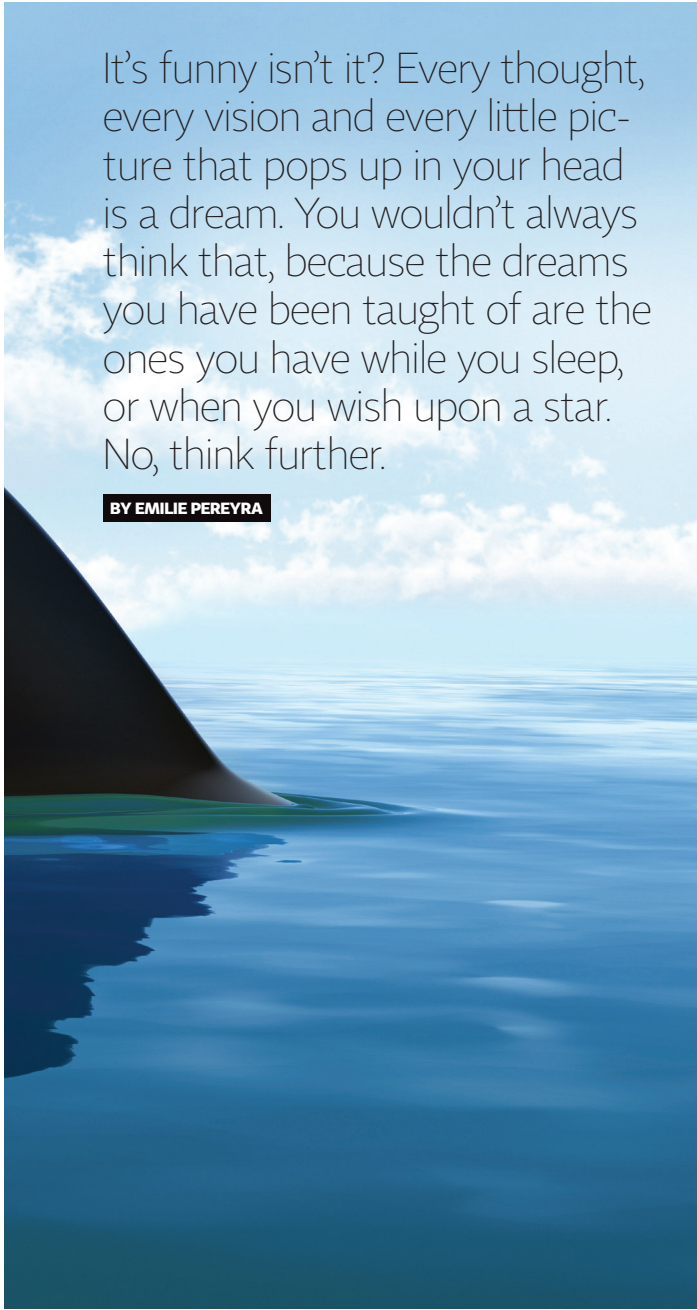
way or another, whether it is because of your age, race, religion, hair colour, gender, choice in beverage or whatever somebody else may have against you. What you have to remember is that if you change yourself based on bigotry and discrimination, not only will you be living a life built upon a lie, but you will be encouraging the narrow-minded to continue hurting others. So, for the sake of yourself and others, be as special as you want to be. If you wake up one morning and want to dye your hair green, do it. If a little girl wants to play with toy cars, let her. If you want to wear a fluffy pink tutu, don't let a Y chromosome get in the way. In fact, don't let anyone or anything get in the way. Above all, don't get in the way of anybody else. If you

are against homosexual marriage, don't get married to a homosexual. If you say that wearing makeup is a sign of low self confidence, you are lowering the confidence of those who wear makeup. Everything you say can be taken to heart. So be yourself in every way, just try not to hurt others.

CONCLUSION

You may like boys. You may like girls. You may like both. You may like none. You may feel different, you may not. Ultimately, you are you. Perfectly abnormal; no matter who you are, love, or want to jump into bed with. As Joey Ramone once said: "We are all screwed up in our own special way". Let that be my mantra. Remember: eat cake—because to me, cake is better than sex.





It's funny isn't it? Every thought, every vision and every little picture that pops up in your head is a dream. You wouldn't always think that, because the dreams you have been taught of are the ones you have while you sleep, or when you wish upon a star. No, think further.

BY EMILIE PEREYRA

Dreams are visions of creativity. They are seen differently in everyone. Your vision of creativity is your dream, and there is no limit. You're completely free.

Ever since I learned to speak, I've constantly been in wonderment of the scaled, slithering, gilled beauties who danced beneath the blue, regularly known as fish, but to me...a figure of dreams.

Whenever I went to the aquarium I'd stand still and watch them fly through water and interact. I could watch them all day and never get bored. But each time I was pulled away from my family members and friends but they wanted to go to the next exhibit, or to just get the trip over and done with because they had lost interest. Fish have something we humans, at times, lack and that is freedom. They're always free to explore the ocean at their will, they're free to hide. With no one holding them back.

I always grew green when I saw them. It takes more than a night away from home to gain freedom. Have you ever imagined that your dream could be represented by something, like a chair, a toaster or

+ PBYM V.3

a landscape? Such plain words are always more than they seem. They all represent dreams in a way. They all mean something more than a wooden seat, burnt bread or an ignored scene.

For me, my dream is a shark. Yeah, that's right, the constantly feared cutie with a dorsal fin. For sharks to survive they must always be swimming forward, they can't go backwards, the water has to keep flowing through their mouth and be passed out through their gills to breathe. If they stop, the water will clot inside them and they'll die—much like a dream.

For a dream to survive and improve you have to keep moving forward, if you stop or go backwards, you'll get overwhelmed by responsibilities. You'll choke up and lose hope, and your dream will shrivel up and die. Now don't panic, that's not always the case, unless you're alone. A shark always has his companion, a Remora. He's that fish that always swims by that big ol' shark. He cleans it up, checks for predators and spots out food. Dreams need a bit of support sometimes. Do yours have a Remora?

Dreams can be seen and felt in different ways, a shark's skin is smooth

when stroked backwards, but ridged and rough when stroked from the tail fin to the nose. Dreams have different perspectives for everyone, it depends which angle you choose to see it by.

Have you heard about shark's teeth? Inside their jaws are rows and rows

*Next time you
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tial and how a
single thought
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of over 3000 teeth. Every time they grab a bite to eat, some teeth fall out and new ones grow. When you create a dream it doesn't just stop, it constantly evolves.

How do the majority of people see a shark? Why is it that they are feared? We're scared because

they're strange to us, just as strange as we are to them. We're frightened because of the stories we hear, or we ridicule them and only see them as pathetic because we are the predators, not the sharks, not the dreams.

Sharks aren't predators of humans. They are not our enemies. Every living thing has a predator, but let's stick with the facts here, are sharks really all that dangerous to us, or is it just a pathetic joke? Sharks may probably see us as pathetic and ridiculous as well, it is not ideal that we have created an irrational fear of them, our harmless friends.

Let's switch to a different angle, sharks are beautiful. Every dream is beautiful, some just misunderstand them, ridicule them, fear them, or see them as pathetic, only to become a predator themselves.

Next time you create a dream, think a little bit more of it. You never know your potential and how a single thought could make several different pathways. Look at it in the right angle, change things, and keep moving forward.

A dream is everything, just as everything is a dream.



BY JADE WATSON

EULOGY

I could sit here and say one thousand things about the person I was, the person I became: Three kids, a brand new family home, married to the guy of my dreams, not too much, not too little, but enough to have what I needed and wanted.

So bright, always smiling,

the kind of girl who could fix a broken smile on the face of a loved one. The way she stood—even when her day wasn't going well—she always had a smile on her bright face. There's not a thing she wouldn't do for the people she cares about, a real role model for those around her.

She had a dream. Well, actually a few dreams, but the one she wanted more than anything—the one she was determined to make a reality—was to travel the world and help sick animals. Boy, did she get there. The way she strived to be who she wanted was a true inspiration.

People doubted her and told her she couldn't do it. They put her down and made her feel as though it was impossible, but I can stand here today and proudly say that she did it. The time and effort she put into everything truly showed the person she was, always expressing herself in everything she did. I want people to look back on the time they had with her and adopt the notion that nothing can stop you—you are your own person, unrestrained, unlimited and free to do whatever you want.

There's not a day that will pass by when I won't remember the time we shared, the memories that lie in my heart, photos of her journey and the motivation she had. We would never forget her, the person she wanted to be, the person growing up and the girl she had become—all I know is she would always be Jade.

Dreams

WHAT ARE DREAMS?

Our thoughts are complicated, wondrous things that twist and tangle within our brain, like threads, or strands of wool (these tangle easily, especially if fussed with by an excited kitten).

BY ANABELLE FAE



BLUE AND BLACK, THESE ARE THE TWO COLOURS I IMAGINE THOUGHTS TO BE.

Blue and black, the colours people imagine space to be, and space is infinite. Thoughts are infinite too.

Unable to be calculated or determined in a logical way, they come to us in such a sudden, mystical way, appearing in our minds without any warning or reason, and even though they may be forgotten,

they never truly fade away, but always remain hidden somewhere in the back of our mind. Like hair ties.

Most of us girls (and any boys with Severus Snape length or Christian Coma length hair) have most likely

owned up to 4000 hair ties in our lifetime, and now own around two to three?

Yes, no matter how many you buy, each and every one of those hair ties has managed to disappear.

But the great thing is that they are not gone. All of them remain somewhere, even though we may never find them again.

It's the same with thoughts. Even though they may be forgotten, they never truly fade away.

Threads of blue and black.

THE IDEAS, AS OFTEN SYMBOLIZED, ARE LIGHT BULBS.

Connected to these strands of deepest ocean blue and the black of a starless night, they hang suspended in the atmosphere of our mind, like helium balloons.

SOME GLOW STRONG AND BRIGHT.

The idea is there, you are fixed upon it. Now it has become a goal, something you aspire to see in this lifetime, something you will work on to achieve. You will not stand for pessimism, judgement or ridicule. This is what you believe in.

That is why the light shines so brightly, free from the dark clouds of negativity.

SOME ARE FEEBLE, FLICKERING.

Perhaps these ideas are clouded by doubt... or fear, or something else entirely. Either way, it is stopping you from aspiring to turn this idea, this aspiration, into something more.

A hand has been placed over your own, and is trying to turn off the light.

AND SOME ARE STILL WAITING FOR THE FLICK OF THE SWITCH.

Ideas can either come smack bang out of the blue, or are triggered by something we see in everyday life. The sight of a completely random person's outfit could give you the idea for a character's sense of style and fashion. The sight of a person eating a biscuit on the train could give you the idea to bake a batch of them when you arrive home. The fresh air and warm sunshine could give you the idea to go for a nice, long walk.

Those are the switch flicks, the things that inspire our ideas, and from this, we can aspire to be more, to glow as bright as possible.

Those are the thoughts.

But the dreams... the dreams... the dreams...

THE DREAMS ARE LIKE CANDLES.

Pale pink, creamy white and soft gold, they float unsupported amidst the black and blue, glowing gently. Ignited by the match of our brain, our imagination is the flickering flame. And the candles are the dreams.

Some last longer than others, extinguished only by the opening of our eyes in the morning. Some are so memorable; they stay with us forever. Some are simply forgotten, locked away in the catacombs in the deepest parts of our minds, alongside the thoughts. Some are so like reality, it may take us several moments once we've woken up to realise it was in fact a dream, and not reality.

Sure, many dreams are absolutely nonsensical and completely wacky. Others can be fantastical and wondrous. Others sad, others interesting, and some can be frightening, but we usually refer to those kind of dreams as "nightmares".

But all dreams are amazing.

They can be described as films: Vivid, brilliant, beautiful films, directed by our unconscious mind, which is something most of us have absolutely no control over.

And it's amazing. Dreams are amazing.



EL CUADRO MÁS GRANDE OR THE BIGGER PICTURE


HOW CAN WE
EXPECT ANYBODY
TO DO SOMETHING
THAT WE AREN'T
WILLING TO DO
OURSELVES?

BY PURPLE PURR

We were put on this world with one another—not for anyone, not against anyone, but with one another. We need to get over whatever holds us back.

Whether it is pride or pain, we need to push through it and think about the bigger picture: The bigger picture where we work together and help in whatever way we

can. We can do absolutely anything, we just need to use our brains. We need to feel humane feelings like compassion and kindness, no matter how much we try



to keep these down. We are spiritual beings living human experiences, so why aren't we making the most of it?

We need to find ourselves, work on ourselves and become the beautiful human beings we're all capable of becoming. Let nature kill us, we don't have the right to choose who lives or dies, no human being is more important than any other. We need balance in our lives, because no matter how much we have, many people always seem to want more. There's no point going overboard the way many of us do. We can have absolutely anything and do absolutely anything, but that doesn't mean we should.

We need to chill the hell out. Nobody has walked in my shoes and I'm certainly not the only person who has had a hard life. Every person I've met has had difficulties at one point or another and it is through these hardships that most of their lessons have been learnt. Hardship is necessary for us to grow.

As individuals, we're all different and we forget that nobody can control us, but ourselves. If you want to accomplish something, get off your butt and do it, instead of waiting for golden opportunities to arrive on golden platters. You reap what you

sow. We are capable of so much, yet so many of us do next to nothing, to contribute to the world. Who wants everything negative, REALLY? There is always a positive and a negative to everything, just as there's always someone to blame and there's always an excuse for something, but how is that

If the choice comes at no cost that only the individual gets effected by, then that's their decision and I'm not going to stop them.

going to get you anywhere? Just because things are the way they are, doesn't mean they shouldn't be changed or fixed.

I recently heard of American twins, who had an abusive alcoholic father. Later in life, they were interviewed separately and one of the twins had turned out the same as his father, drinking and beating his kids. When questioned he said "How else would I turn out with a father like that?" The other twin was interviewed and his response was the exact opposite. He has a loving wife and kids, what more could he ask for? "How else would I turn out with a father like that?" is also what he said.

See what I'm saying? Bad things happen, that's life: cry

it out, think about what you learnt from the situation and move on.

I am a huge believer of everything happening for a reason. Things might be bad, but they could always be worse. We learn lessons all the time. There will always be something to learn. It's about what we do with our

knowledge and how far we want to take things in life. It's about how much we want to accomplish. We're all put on this world for a reason and it certainly wasn't to bring the rest of the world down. I am all for each to their own when it comes to individual life choices. If the choice comes at no cost that only the individual gets effected by, then that's their decision and I'm not going to stop them.

Either way, don't go out of your way to hurt someone else. We won't help mislead people by committing the same wrongs others do, or by stooping to their level. Let's all pull our heads out of our buttocks and make the changes we wish to see in the world.



I firmly believe that bullying is one of the main reasons leading to self-harm, depression, and suicide. Verbal, physical and mental bullying can be done in so many ways. First, it'll be the laughing when someone walks past, then it'll be a post and then it'll lead to

messaging and calling the person constantly to the point where they need to remove themselves from any social network, and remove themselves even from the place they grew up. And it doesn't stop there. The bullying turns to the point where the person physically and

mentally can't handle the abuse and harassment anymore. And what does that lead too?

I don't understand how someone can make someone else feel so horrible about themselves. It's not a joke anymore. A little laugh turns into a serious problem, a problem



that could leave families broken.

How can someone take it that far? How could you or I take it that far? Is there no self-control? Is there no feeling within someone to think “hey it’s time to stop; it’s getting over the top?”

When someone bullies

another person, the chances are they aren’t doing it because the victim has done something wrong. For some reason some human beings get joy out of harassing others physically and mentally. Why? No one knows why. They could be having a bad day, or feel insecure about themselves or have nothing better to do with their lives to entertain themselves.

However, that’s no excuse to make anyone feel horrible. You don’t need to react. You don’t need to prove anything to them. You are who you are, whether you’ve figured out who that is or not. They cannot take that away from you. The world will knock you down, but you shall never break. You are more than just a number. You have every right to live in this world as much as they do. Today is a new beginning of happiness and trying to overrule the thoughts in your head and the thoughts in everyone else’s.

The worst feeling in the world is seeing the pain in someone’s eyes, especially someone you care about, and knowing you’re not able to help

them because you don’t understand, and the fact of the matter is that you may never understand. Even though you can’t understand the exact feelings, you can support them through their difficult times. It may take a while but seeing the happiness and hope reappear through the way they present themselves, in their attitude and when you look in to their eyes will give you so much happiness. You will feel proud knowing you’ve helped that person survive a temporary battle within themselves.

We’ve all got to remember that bad things happen to the best people, so that the best people can learn to move on, and become stronger. No matter how painful it may be, with the help from those around you, you will get through this. You are not alone, and there are people everywhere feeling the exact way you are feeling.

We are permitted to love ourselves for who we are. We are free to cry and to smile, we are unique, and I couldn’t be any more thankful for being the way I am. #dreamy

TURN THAT FROWN UPSIDE DOWN

BY SHAYANNE MOXHAM



There are so many horrible things going on that some people don't often think about. Things such as rape, murder, torture, robberies, animals being killed for fun, people out on the streets with no food or money, drunks beating up their kids or partners, children and adults dying of starvation, women having to sell themselves just to

survive, wars and so much more.

There are women going to bed in fear because of the men they live with. There are people afraid to leave their home because they're scared that somebody will hurt them. Teenagers are scared because another young teen has been kidnapped and are afraid they could be next. So many people live in fear, so I'll ask again, can you imagine if our world was a better place?

Think about the change it could make to this world if we didn't have such horrific things going on to be afraid about. Imagine waking up fearless, full of energy and ready to conquer.

Imagine walking down the street with a big smile on your face and the people around you are feeling the exact same, seeing everybody so happy and even saying hello to strangers and having a chat with them. These days you can see

conflict down the street, somebody swearing at another because they bumped into them and spilt coffee all over them or a misunderstanding escalated. Fights occurring over silly things such as that.

We live in a society full of judgement and hatred. To some people, life is wonderful and acceptable, which is amazing in a way.

I see people who are down in the dumps, hating life, waking up in the morning just wanting to die. It's hurtful to see such a thing. I see girls who are so self-conscious that they feel they have to wear makeup to feel better, boys acting the way other boys do just to fit in, people having to lie about themselves just to feel accepted. Just imagine utopia.

My dream is for people to be themselves, feel safe and be positive, so you could say I'd like to be a counsellor and a bartender. Sounds weird right? A bartender and a counsellor?

Two completely different jobs, but hey you can also help people alone at the bar who need a shoulder to cry on because they just broke up with their girlfriend/boyfriend and you're giving them a few beers or scotch on the rocks.

Some people give up on their dreams because someone else has said they wouldn't get that far to succeed their goals or they just don't believe in themselves.

Don't give up on anything. Whether it'd be feeling down because you feel as if you aren't good enough to do anything, doubting yourself because you think you can't do this or you can't do that. **YOU CAN.**

Life can only get better people and that I promise you.

Life is like a rollercoaster, life has its ups and downs. I know it's a cliché but it's true. It doesn't mean you should just give up because you're on the down low. Children, teenagers, young adults, adults—all of us have so much to live for, so much

to do and have so much to experience. This is only the beginning.

To you teenagers who feel as though you're worthless, you're not. Someone out there cares about you and loves you. As much as you might tell yourself that you're alone, you're not.

It's sad to see so many people, especially teens, just give up because of their past, self doubt, personal problems and so on. People that pick on you just to bring you down are already below you. Don't let them bring you down. Prove to those people that you are strong. Prove to those people that you are worth it, but most importantly prove it to yourself and believe in yourself. Stop doubting yourself. Open your eyes and realise that you can do anything you want to.



NO TWO ARE IDENTICAL

My dream, simply put, is to be a great father and husband. However, I can't have that this very minute so I would like to take this opportunity to ask others about what their dreams are, when that became their dream, why that is their dream and how that dream will be achieved.

BY JOSHUA HEWAT

Harley Ramsay: My dream is to own a mansion and Lamborghini by the time I am fifty years old. This became my dream when I was thirteen years old. This is my dream because I believe that I will be rich in the future. My plan to make this happen is to get a good job that earns a lot of money and I will save as much as possible.





Anonymous: My dream is to become the best possible human being, musician and whatever else I want to be in the future—better than I ever thought or believed. This became my dream recently because I have only just started to understand what I want out of life. This is my dream because I'm not working my butt off to get a job and finish school and careers for nothing! I will achieve my dreams by working my butt off to grow, learn, accept, understand, perceive, respect and love everybody to help encourage the world to become brilliant before it crumbles beneath us.

Liam Prato: My dream is to be able to become an engineer and to see my nephew grow up and to be a good man. That became

my dream at the start of the year when my nephew was born. I will accomplish my dreams by working as hard as I possibly can at everything I do both now and in the future.

Anonymous: My dream is to become an accountant. This became my dream at the beginning of the year. This is my dream simply because of the fact that I like accounting and I will reach this dream by going to university.



Sam Boddeke: My life dream is to become a chef, and travel the globe to learn new cuisines. This became my dream when I was about thirteen years old and started to cook. This is my dream because I get to do what I love most in this world which is cook great food and chefs make a lot of money. I'll also get to travel as much as I like. I will achieve this by completing a course in commercial cookery, and pray that some employer will give me a job.

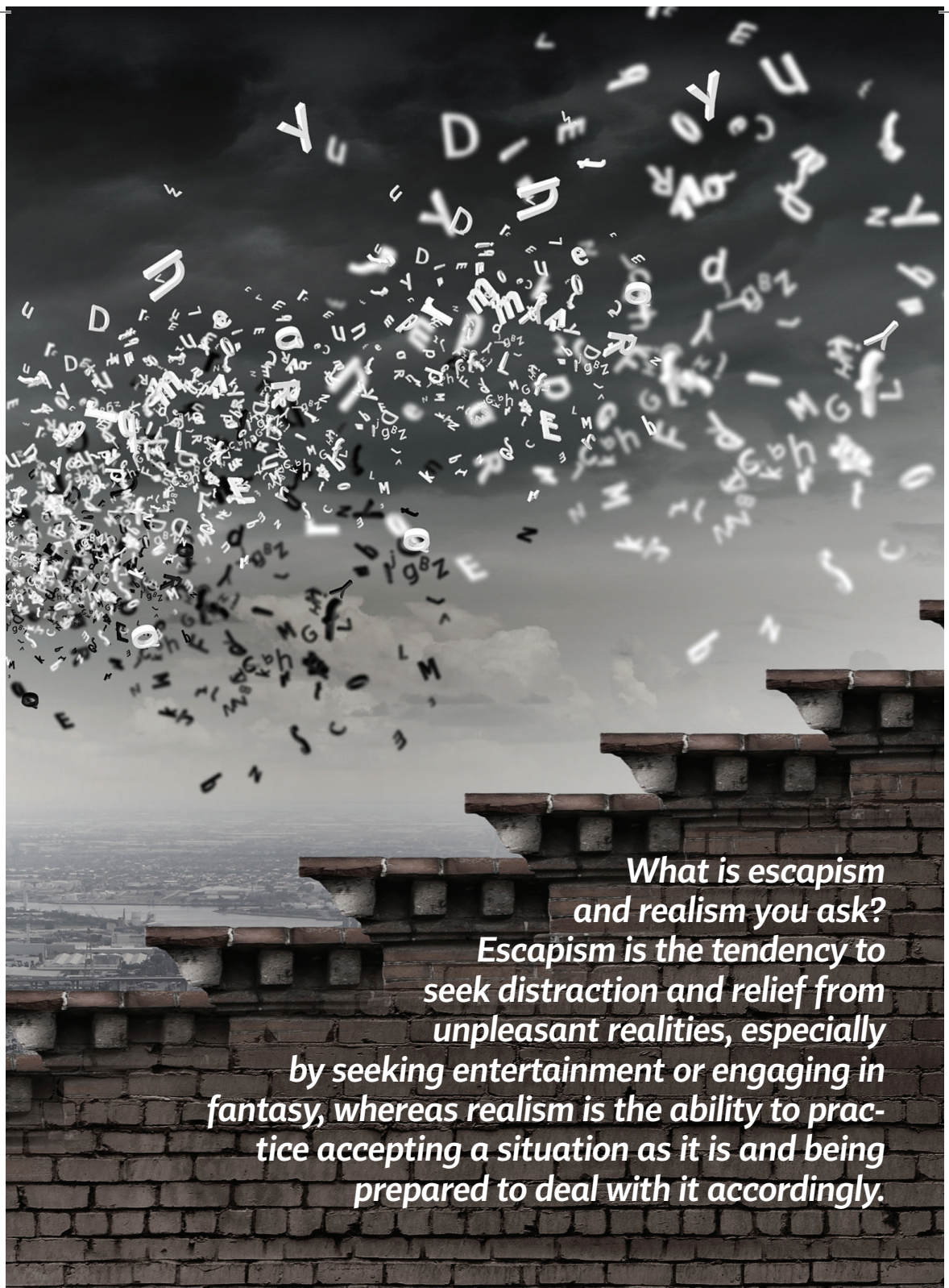
The reason I have compiled these different peoples' points of views and dreams is to help the other people who read this article to understand that for every person you see there are one hundred reasons why they are who they are and those are completely different when compared to the next person. #goandliveyourdreams

+ PBYM V.3

Escapism vs Realism

BY SAM BODDEKE





**What is escapism
and realism you ask?**

**Escapism is the tendency to
seek distraction and relief from
unpleasant realities, especially
by seeking entertainment or engaging in
fantasy, whereas realism is the ability to prac-
tice accepting a situation as it is and being
prepared to deal with it accordingly.**

+ PBYM V.3

The broad topic of escapism and realism includes the varieties of reality and the technology behind those realities.

Escapism contains four stages:

■ **Healthy enjoyment** –

which can include getting caught up in the current book you are reading.

■ **Avoidance** – includes playing a game for hours and hours to avoid an event or person, or problem.

■ **Neglect** – it is one thing to avoid a bad event or problem, but to neglect your responsibilities as a result is highly unhealthy.

■ **Obsession** – this is the last stage and the worst because once you get here you have very little control over your life because you're constantly escaping which causes you to lose friends and family. This leads to a stressful life.

The debate of escapism vs. realism has intrigued me because of the nature of this discussion. Usually I'm on one side or the other but with this debate I switch between them over and over again.

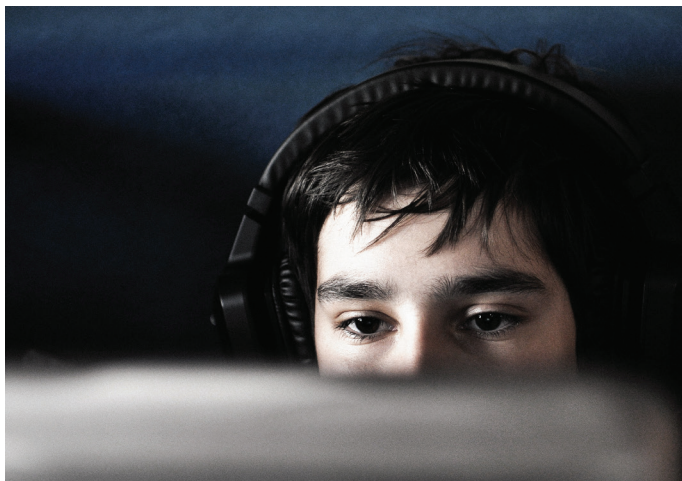
My opinion of escapism and realism is an unusual one: I'm an escapist and realist because I have the ability accept a situation

and go through life being prepared and ready to deal with an event or situation accordingly without needing an escape. I'm also an escapist because from time to time I might be reading, writing, watching a film or a show, or just listening to music and become lost within the entertainment type. As such, I believe you can find a happy medium that best suits you and your personality.

Since the development of escapism, realism, virtual reality, mediated reality and augmented reality, the idea of finding that perfect balance between imagination and reality has become even more confusing because of the ever increasing amount of options available. Most

of the world's population believe that you can only be on one side of the debate but, since I see myself on both, I believe that you can find a peaceful medium of both imagination and reality by occasionally engaging in the first step of escapism as well as taking the time to go through your life and gain those life experiences. Keeping a balance between escapism and realism prevents alcohol and drug abuse, depression, mental blanks, acts of violence, stress related illnesses, and the ability to become lost or zoned out.

Escapism, virtual reality, mediated reality, and augmented reality (AR) are all linked because the technology behind them provides a safe and secure version of



reality. Augmented reality is defined as technology that can compose a computer generated image providing the user with a real life simulation, but allowing them to change things making their own perfect world.

Could this be a new balance between realism and escapism? In many ways these new leaps in technology such as augmented reality could benefit the public by providing new advances in:

■ **Archaeology**, by formulating conclusions about site placement and configuration more accurate than the human eye, without having to spend money before the conclusions have been finalised.

■ **Architecture**, by visualising building projects more accurate than blueprints, before the physical building is constructed therefore saving on resources, money and human labour.

■ **Art**, by improving designs as well as making art easier to understand and engage with.

■ **Education**, by allowing students to participate interactively with computer generated simulations of historical events, exploring and learning details of each significant area of the event site.

■ **Health services**, by

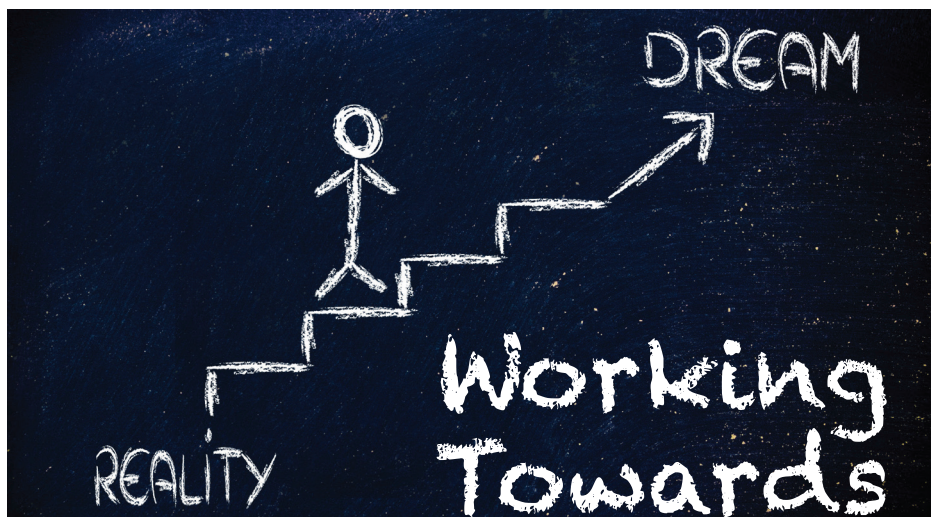
generating hypothetical scenarios and possible outcomes, along with providing interactive opportunities for medical students to take part in medical procedures without the need for a body.

However, using the technology purely for gaming and other entertainment would be a waste of resources not to mention unhealthy. Using the technology in something like the Oculus Rift, a next generation peripheral device, is alright in moderation because everyone needs a form of escape occasionally, whether it's from a stressful day at work, or just to unwind.

The Oculus Rift includes the technology that makes AR possible. There are three things that make this the next leap in technology: The low latency 360° head tracking allows you to seamlessly look around the virtual world just as you would in real life. Every subtle movement of your head is tracked in real time creating a natural experience. The 3D stereoscopic view provides an excellent 3D experience far greater than the standard 3D television or movie. The ultra wide screen gives approximately 100 degrees of view,

far greater than peripheral vision for larger game play, work related documents, and digital media.

In my experience, finding a balance between being a realist and escapist can be hard. Trust me I know, because everyone's balance is different because of their lives. This means we're all different but the hard thing about finding that balance is over thinking it. Most people only view this debate from a scientific or emotional point of view, but never both. If you look at this debate through the eyes of science while understanding it on a more emotional level this will generally help you find that balance. One's life situation will also have an impact. For me, being a student whilst looking for part time work as well as considering further education options, to find my balance I had to go through my schedule and work out my free time (even if just an hour a week) to read, watch a movie, go see some friends, play video games, or something physical outside such as sport. This, to me, was the process of how I got my perfect balance between realism and escapism, ending my curiosity of the debate.



Our dreams can be our greatest asset or our worst nightmare. They can motivate or destroy. The fact of the matter is that you choose whether they're good or bad dreams.

I have all these things running through my head but I don't completely know what I want yet. I'm still young though so I have many years to think about my dreams and when I'm sure of them, I know I'll go for them.

There's one thing I'm sure of—there's one thing I know I want to turn into a reality, and that's being a loving husband and a good father. I've seen what having neither of those attributes as a father can do to a son or daughter and I refuse to follow their example. I want to be there for my children and make sure they're happy because if they're happy I'm happy. That's all I'd like. I want to be known as a father who did all he could for his children.

Another dream I have is to be happy. So far there is room for improvement, but isn't that the case with every dream? Isn't there always hardship before greatness? Don't most of us need to work hard before we get that elusive reward? There's a point in time where downhill feels like the only direction but I have faith that the slope will turn the other way. I'm still striving to be happy and working towards driving the sadness away, working towards driving myself towards my dreams.

#dreamoutloud

BY AIDAN MCCALL

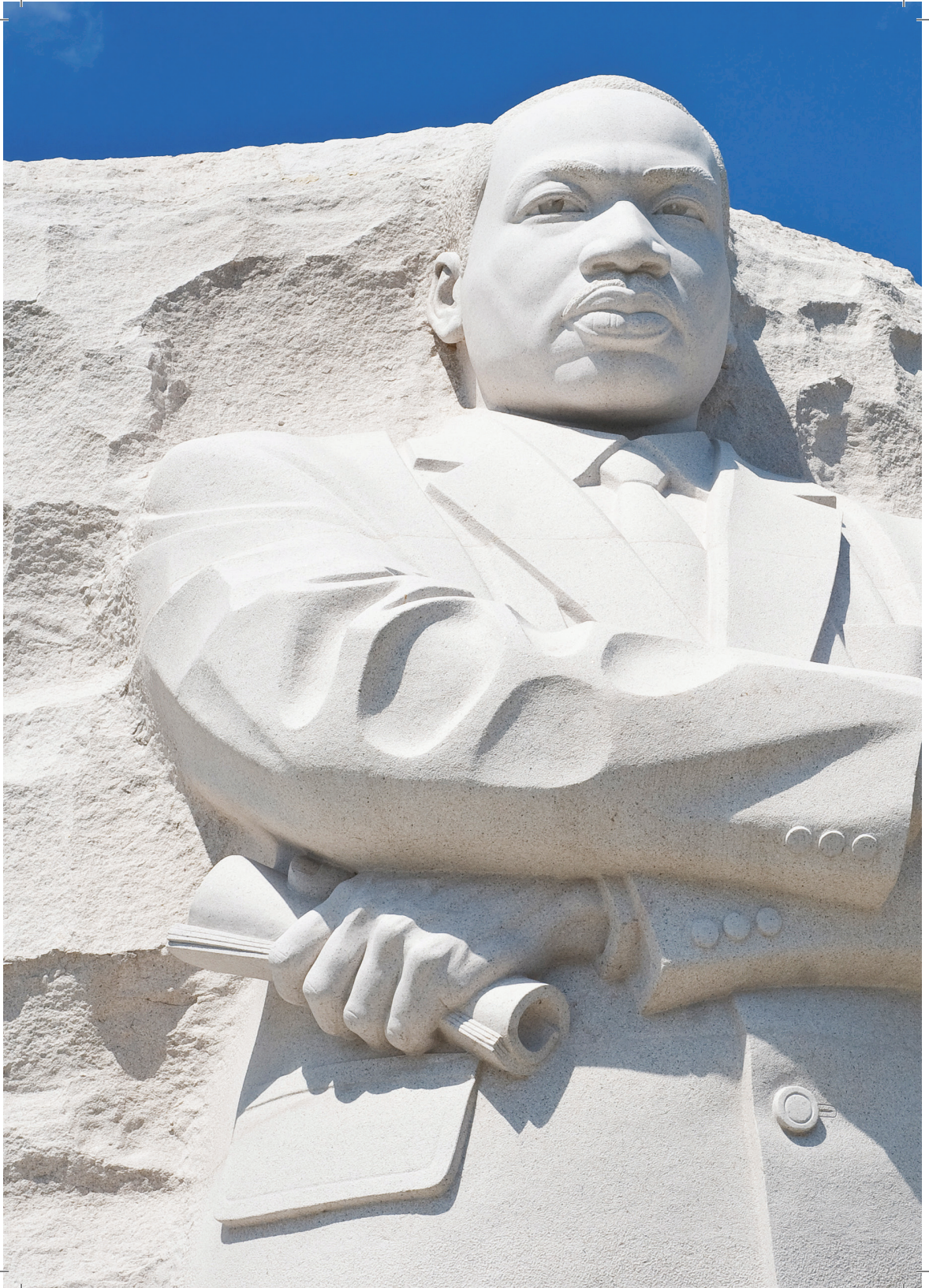
Working Towards your Dreams



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WHAT IS INTERESTING ABOUT THE WORLD

BY LIAM PRATO

People like Martin Luther King's and his 'I have a Dream Speech' and Charlie Chaplin and his 'Final Speech' intrigue me. We have these people and these amazing speeches and then, on the other hand, people do nothing about the problems that are brought up in these speeches. They are the problems in this world: the problems that those people talk about are not dealt with. They are pushed off to the side and ignored. What I don't like is that people force their problems on people and don't realise they are doing so.

This then causes more problems and so on. Like Martin Luther King fighting for equal rights for his brothers and sisters, the

cause and the country will change but the fight has not. Charlie Chaplin said 'we have developed speed, but we have shut ourselves in'. Ultimate change might not happen in our own life time but the simple fact is it will not happen. It is a bleak outlook but it is the truth.

My dream is to see my nephew grow up and become a strong individual. I am hoping to see my son or daughter become a strong individual as well. And see everyone's dreams—whether in a global scale or a community. I would love to see a world where dreams inspire others and where the speeches and acts of great people such as Martin Luther King, Charlie Chaplin and Mother Teresa are followed like the law.





BY AIMEE POMPEI

Lucid Dreams

Lie down and go to sleep, (this works best when you're extremely tired). Lay on your back with your arms by your side and close your eyes. You need to stay perfectly still for this to work. You must stay awake. Your brain will send signals to your body to see if you're ready to sleep. These signals are getting an itch, wanting to change positions, moving your eyes, blinking (remember to keep your eyes closed). You must ignore these signals, after about twenty to thirty minutes you should feel a weight on your chest. You may even hear noises.

You are now in sleep paralysis. If you open your eyes you will begin to hallucinate, although you will not be able to move your body as your body will be completely asleep. Now that you are aware you are dreaming you can shut your eyes and dream instantly. You will be fully aware that you're dreaming and with some practice you will be able to control your dreams.

Nightmares

Nightmares are a subcategory of dreams. You may have a nightmare because it's a way for your unconscious to get attention about something that has happened or that

you're avoiding. Nightmares can have a big impact on your 'waking mind'. Its image can stay with you throughout the day.

Studies show that people who are more sensitive, creative, or imaginative are more likely to have nightmares. This may be because they're more in tune with their surroundings.

Recurring Dreams

The message in recurring dreams may be so important or powerful that it can refuse to go away. Recurring dreams are common and often triggered by something like a certain life situation, a phase in life or a recurring problem. Recurring dreams occur daily, once a week or a few times a month. Recurring dreams could be trying to tell you something or remind you of something.

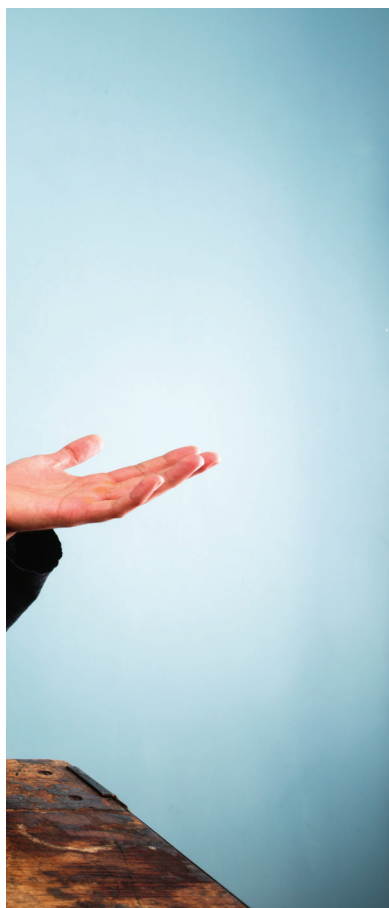
Epic Dreams

Epic dreams are also known as Great Dreams, Cosmic Dreams or Numinous Dreams. Epic Dreams are easy to recognise. They bring greater awareness to you and make you look at life in another way. These involve strong emotions, are extremely memorable and remain with you for years as though you dreamt it yesterday.



IGNORANCE IS BLISS

BY: BRANDON BRADDOCK



Society fascinates me. We go out in droves to watch violent movies, but when a new type of media comes along and does something remotely unsettling, it causes outrage and people try to shut it down. Why do we do this? Is it that we're scared of the unknown? Or do we hate it when things change?

The world we live in is a very weird and hypocritical one sometimes. I don't understand why we act like this. How can we live in an age where the world is literally at our fingertips yet, we're still censoring ourselves? It's madness and I hate it. What happened to self-responsibility? Whatever happened to parental responsibility? People try to get video games banned "for the children". I keep hearing that over and over again.

What's the point of having a rating system to inform parents that the art contains inappropriate material for children when parents pay no attention to it? They buy the kids violent games and get outraged about the content and try to get it banned even though it has the rating.

It boggles my mind seeing people perform such mental gymnastics to justify their point of view. They get told in as many ways as possible about the content yet, they still get angry about the concept of a game made for adults having adult content. It's mind boggling how we work. We try our hardest to figure things out yet when we do, we go for

convenient answers rather than the actual truth.

When the Columbine massacre happened the people didn't look for the reason why the two gunmen did what they did. They just blamed it on video games for a convenient justification of their actions. They didn't want to accept the fact that some people are truly horrific, and opted for a more convenient answer.

I'll use two things to point out the hypocrisy of people, *Grand Theft Auto IV* and *Scarface*. There are people who think *Scarface* is a film that exists for violence but, when you compare the amount of people who think negatively about *Scarface* and *Grand Theft Auto*, there are more people against *Grand Theft Auto*. Hell, there was even a man called Jack Thompson who tried to ban it in America.

If you watch *Scarface* you can see that it has extreme violence and scenes of substance abuse. But the reason for such scenes is to point out what happens when greed and addiction get the better of you.

I don't understand how that could be considered a masterpiece, yet some-

+ PBYM V.3

thing like Grand Theft Auto is considered nothing more than mindless violence. It has the same morals and story as Scarface: A man coming from poor circumstances and slowly rising to power but letting his greed get the better of him. As a result, his greed and power comes crumbling down and he ends up in a worse situation than he was in originally.

The thing that makes video games better and more impactful than movies is the fact that you're in control of a protagonist. It's not just something you sit and watch passively. When you play a game you become a part of the world.

When the protagonist makes a mistake, it makes the story that much more impactful because you were the one who chose the outcome. You're the one who makes the mistakes.

You're the one who has to deal with the consequences and repercussions of your actions.

I think that's why people refuse to accept games as art. The exact thing happened to comic books. At first they were just a novelty, a thing for children. But over time

they started to evolve, they started to have more mature readers and more mature stories.

There was a problem that arose with the more mature comics: People still thought comics were nothing more than entertainment for children, so when they saw comics targeted to adults they were absolutely horrified. Instead of seeing the potential for an amazing way to tell stories, they started censoring them.

It was called the Comics Code Authority. Anything they didn't agree with either forced the creators to edit their work or have

their work refused to be published. You see the same type of stuff today. How many games are banned even though we have the R18+ rating?

What's the point?

Are we really such simple creatures? Are we so simple that seeing fictitious violence and other mature themes corrupts us? Video games have literally endless ways of presenting a narrative. It infuriates me that the government still sees them as nothing more than entertainment, rather than something that has amazing possibilities.



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SPIDER

The real world bores me. It's full of spiteful, horrible people, though I eclipse them all. At least, that's how I see it. People are born. People die. Good things happen as do the bad. When I was younger, I used to retreat into my mind when I was faced with the horrors of this world.

Then I found computers. And I have been sucked into them for most of the past decade. I enjoy them, I moved from gaming to programming, perhaps wanting to share my joy. Yet

I have no skills in programming. Recently, I began to lose interest in computers. They're boring now, just like everything else. So I began, once more, to retreat into my mind. But that's no longer fun. It's not boring, but it's not pleasant.

I imagine myself to be a spider at the centre of a web. Sitting in the dark I wait and watch the flies buzz around, oblivious to my presence. If one blunders into my web, I silence it. But I do not feed. I lost the will to do so a long time ago. I am

the embodiment of poison. Deadly, silent and painful.

On the days I move from my web and allow myself to be seen, the flies do not see what I see. They see the embodiment of happiness. They see a sense of humour. And just for a moment, so do I... Then the clouds roll in and evolution takes its course. I rage and spit poison and the flies scatter, never to be seen again. And I crawl back to my web and find the corpse left earlier. I mourn them before adding them to the list. I do not feed. I have no will to.

Years later, I still sit at the centre of the web. The list of corpses grows by the day, but I still do not feed. Perhaps I'll soon starve, for I should. I am the embodiment of poison. Deadly, silent, painful and unwanted.

Then I come of my mind. And the world's still horrible and I am still a spider. I may no longer have the limbs of one and my web may be in tatters, but a spider I still am. Funny isn't it, when the lines between mind and reality fade? These days, I try to stay amused, failing miserably. Nothing interests me. And so I sit down, take a deep breath and begin to relax. And I watch the world burn. It's pretty boring.



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Movie Review

BY BLAKE BARIC

A Clockwork Orange, Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory and Dirty Harry: 1971 was an interesting time for films as the industry began to commercialise the horrors of human society

and the vile activities that are performed within. Wake in Fright, or Outback as it is more commonly known in some parts of the world, was no exception.

Adapted from the 1961 novel written by Kenneth Cook, Ted Kotcheff aimed

to create the vivid Australian lifestyle in the span of nearly two hours. Wake in Fright follows the character of 'a bonded slave to the education department' as the school year in the arid town of Tiboonda comes to a close. The protagonist, John Grant, played by Gary Bond—a well spoken, handsome British school-teacher—ventures to a small rural Australian town that goes by the name of Bundanyabba, or the 'Yabba' as the locals like to call it. John was hoping to leave the 'Yabba' to spend Christmas with his girlfriend in Sydney, but that soon changes when the locals decided to take a gander at the visitor.

John is introduced to the masochistic society of heavy-drinking, gambling, and kangaroo hunting and becomes heavily embedded with some of the local rabble. Beer becomes compulsory for the characters and the story as its influence becomes greater and greater. It is clear to the audience that John hates it and wants to leave, but he still manages to get absolutely drunk and resume his stay in the town with his new friends.

Wake in Fright expresses the riveting tale about addiction and social conformity. There is a scene

where John Grant is forced to down drink after drink with a local man, appearing to be a police officer. This man introduces John to the 'Yabba' lifestyle of drinking, good food and the hidden gambling ring. The gambling ring itself is a massive plot point for the characters as John sees the winning streak some men appear to be on and becomes interested in the aspect of winning money to pay off his bond to the education department.

Further into the film, the characters and film crew shot a scene where a drunken hunt takes place. This scene has become infamous due to its graphic nature and realism. The spotlight is pointed at a group of kangaroos and so are the characters' rifles. It's an orgy of bloody violence. Kangaroos were shot left and right, some trying to limp away with gunshot wounds to their legs, or torso.

Known by most of the public is that the scene was performed by licensed hunters, however, it is unknown that the hunters acted exactly like the characters in the film: drunk, crazy and hungering for violence.

The cinematography and directing of the actors fashioned a rough and tough panorama of the characters

and setting. Kotcheff's use of bird's eye view, POV and long shots conveys atmosphere and emotion through the plot. A scene where this is particularly apparent is when John gets a turn to toss the coins in the gambling ring: the camera looks down on John and the gamblers as the coins ascend. The audience peers back down on John, who is struggling to see the coins in the air. The lighting blinds John and the viewers whilst eerie music is softly played in the background. Suspense builds and the coins fall, and so does John.

The film is paradise with a nightmare lens of pure Australian culture. Whilst the film is outdated, by our

standards, it still mirrors modern society in many ways. This is most apparent with the conveying of heavy, continuous drinking in crowded bars and clubs, and violence between drunken friends.

This film was not as enjoyable as some claimed. I found it to be another Australian film trying to capture the stereotype of Australian culture. Ultimately, however, the film exaggerates the stereotype. The cinematography is fantastic and captures the mood set by the scene. The passages of dialogue are long and sometimes hard to understand due to some instances of rural Australian slang. Overall, the film did not capture my complete



INSPIRED BY
GAME OF
THRONES

SEASON 1 TYRION
LANNISTER'S STORY

BY ZOE BRYANT





I've never been the favourite in the family. I'm the bastard my father wished he never had. I killed my mother when she gave birth to me and ever since I've been blamed for it even though I did not know I did it. If I was born a commoner I would have been left out in the woods to die, however I was born a Lannister.

Nothing works out for me, I was blamed for the son of Ned Stark, Bran's fall and attempted assassination. I was brought to the Eyrie to await a trial by the lord of the Vale, but I demanded a trial by combat and requested that a raven would be sent for my brother Jamie to fight

for me but Lysa demanded the trial would be that very day. I was worried, not sure of what to do but I decided to ask the crowd if there was a brave man who would fight for me. As I stood there whilst everyone was giggling and whispering a deep voice from the back called out 'I will'. A tall man with dark brown hair walks out from the crowd. He doesn't look too bad. The man pulled out his sword and was ready to fight the opponent.

During the fight, I noticed that this man has skill and to my luck he won the fight and I was free to leave the Eyrie. I asked what his name was

when we were leaving the gate. He said his name was Bronn. I thanked him for being my champion and that if he stays with me he will have everything he could ever want. All the gold he could imagine, all the women at his fingertips. He will never go hungry as long as he stays with me, and as the saying goes 'A Lannister always pays his debts'.

Travelling back through the tribesman-infested hills was a long, quiet walk with Bronn. To entertain myself I decided to whistle. I liked whistling. Bronn complained about my whistling saying how it could attract attention. I ignored him and reminded

him that if he can get me through these hills he will be a wealthy man. That's all he needed to hear to proceed throughout the hills. When we set up camp for the night Bronn killed a goat for food and made a fire to cook it and keep us warm.

As the sun was just about to rise, I was woken by Bronn placing his hand over my mouth to make sure I didn't make any noise as I got up. As I stand up Bronn points over to the shrubs and trees. I notice that the hill tribes are slowly closing in on us. I stand there quietly and wait for the hill people to come up to us. As I look over, Bronn is about to grab his dagger, but I quickly stop him from doing so. I yell out to the hill people, trying to convince them to come share the goat which has been sitting over the now dead fire. Burnt and tough I can imagine but they continue to close in, not making any noise except the twigs breaking under their feet.

Four meters away from us is when they decide to stop, straight faces and scars all over them. One of them, who seems to be the leader of the tribe, starts to speak. He wants

to kill me and Bronn both, but I managed to convince them to not only let us go, but to join the Lannister army against Robb Stark's army. I promised him the finest weapons, better than the weapons they have on them now. As the sun finally rises we all set off back to my father's camp.

It's midday when we finally arrive at my father's camp. I go straight to my father's tent with the hill tribe following me and in-

to my tent where Bronn should be. As I enter, my eyes instantly glance onto the beautiful woman who is standing by my bed. She stands there, beautiful, short black hair, dressed in a blue silk dress. As I was looking at her, Bronn spoke up and said that he stole her from one of the soldiers in another tent. She speaks up and introduces herself. 'My name is Shae.' Such a beautiful name.

As the night goes on,

IT'S MIDDAY WHEN WE FINALLY ARRIVE AT MY FATHER'S CAMP. I GO STRAIGHT TO MY FATHER'S TENT WITH THE HILL TRIBE FOLLOWING ME AND INTRODUCE THEM TO HIM.

to introduce them to him. My father is wary about the hill tribe but takes them in as having more fighters is never a bad thing. He asks them to fight for him and if they do so he will supply them with great weapons. The leader agrees but on one condition; I go into battle with them too.

I agree and then head

we share stories as we sit by the fire and drink, preparing for the battle I face tomorrow. It's around midnight and, as I lay down in bed, Shae joins me. We glare into each other's eyes and lock lips. She is mine. As long as I still have money in my pockets to pay her, she will always be mine.

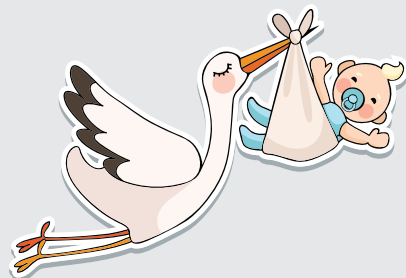
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NUTS, AND WORMS
LIKE FRIED BACON

15

**MIND BOGGLING
FACTS!**



315 ENTRIES
IN WEBSTER'S
1996 DICTIONARY
WERE
MISSPELLED



ON AVERAGE,
12 NEWBORNS
WILL BE GIVEN TO
THE WRONG
PARENTS DAILY

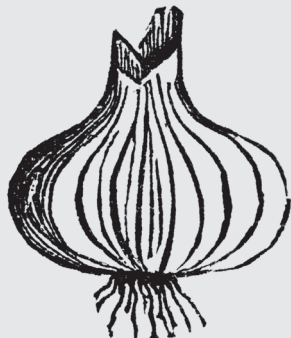


POLAR BEARS
ARE
LEFT-HANDED

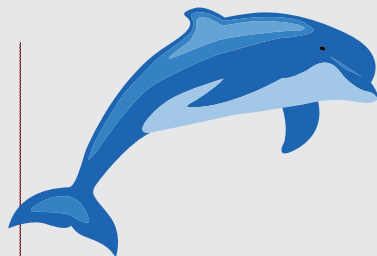
IN 1836, A PIG IN
FRANCE
WAS EXECUTED
BY PUBLIC HANGING
FOR THE MURDER
OF A CHILD



CHEWING GUM WHILE
PEELING ONIONS WILL
KEEP YOU FROM CRYING



EARTH
IS THE ONLY PLAN-
ET NOT NAMED
AFTER A GOD



DOLPHINS
SLEEP WITH
ONE EYE
OPEN

THE GLUE
ON ISRAELI
POSTAGE STAMPS
IS CERTIFIED
KOSHER



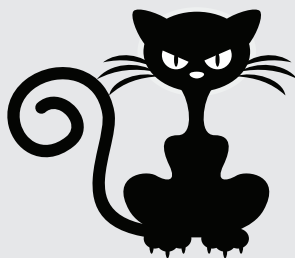
HUMAN
THIGH
BONES
ARE
**STRON-
GER THAN
CON-
CRETE**



THERE ARE
NO CLOCKS
IN LAS VEGAS
CASINO'S

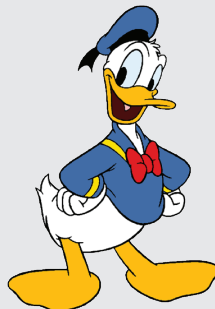


IN FRANCE IT IS
**LEGAL TO
MARRY A DEAD
PERSON**



A CATS URINE
GLOWS
UNDER A BLACK
LIGHT

**DONALD DUCK
COMICS WERE
BANNED IN
FINLAND BECAUSE
HE DOESN'T WEAR
ANY PANTS**



JOANNE RYAN MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR LALOR

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t twitter.com/joanneryanlalor

As a former school principal I know local young adults as motivated and engaged. Sometimes you may need assistance with federal matters, such as workplace issues, queries about Centrelink and housing support. Don't hesitate to contact my office with any queries.



jill hennessy mp

STATE MEMBER FOR ALTONA DISTRICT



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As your local MP, I want to know what issues matter to you, and your ideas for improving our community. You can also get in touch with me if you need support, advice, or assistance with government services, and I'm keen to support local community groups and projects. Whatever you need, please give me a call or contact me online.



Federation

UNIVERSITY • AUSTRALIA



As one of Victoria's 5-star universities**, we offer

OVER 400 PROGRAMS

from short courses to degrees and beyond



Our aim is to help local young people make real differences in the Hobson's Bay and Wyndham communities by increasing the amount of opportunities available to them to become actively involved.

Proudly supporting Youth Foundations.

Since we opened, Altona, Point Cook and Laverton **Community Bank**® branches have contributed more than \$3.1 million back to local clubs, projects and community groups.

We are very proud of our association with the Youth Foundation and are inspired by the projects that are achieved. From hosting a car push fundraising event, publishing youth magazines, art projects, overseas study experiences to Singapore and leading many community youth programs. It is a good story.

Altona, Point Cook and Laverton **Community Bank**® branches have contributed over \$215,000 to the Youth

Foundation to date.

Why? Because, we know that for us to be successful, our customers and communities need to be successful first.

When you choose to bank with us, you're making a decision that benefits you and the local community.

Altona, Point Cook and Laverton **Community Bank**® branches are not just about money, we're about the good that money can bring.

And what could be bigger than that.

Drop into your nearest branch at Altona - 9398 8922, Laverton - 9369 8455 or Point Cook - 9395 7724 to find out more.



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Bigger than a bank.

bendigobank.com.au

Altona, Point Cook and Laverton **Community Bank**® branches

