

Fiona Katauskas

Winter of Our Discount Tent

The Guardian Australia, 30 March 2023

With rents soaring and increasing numbers of people pushed into homelessness, the Australian housing crisis deepened in 2023. By the end of March two further interest rate hikes announced by the RBA to combat inflation added to the strain on mortgage-holders and renters. Fiona Katauskas comments on the low quality of housing that some are forced to settle for in such circumstances.

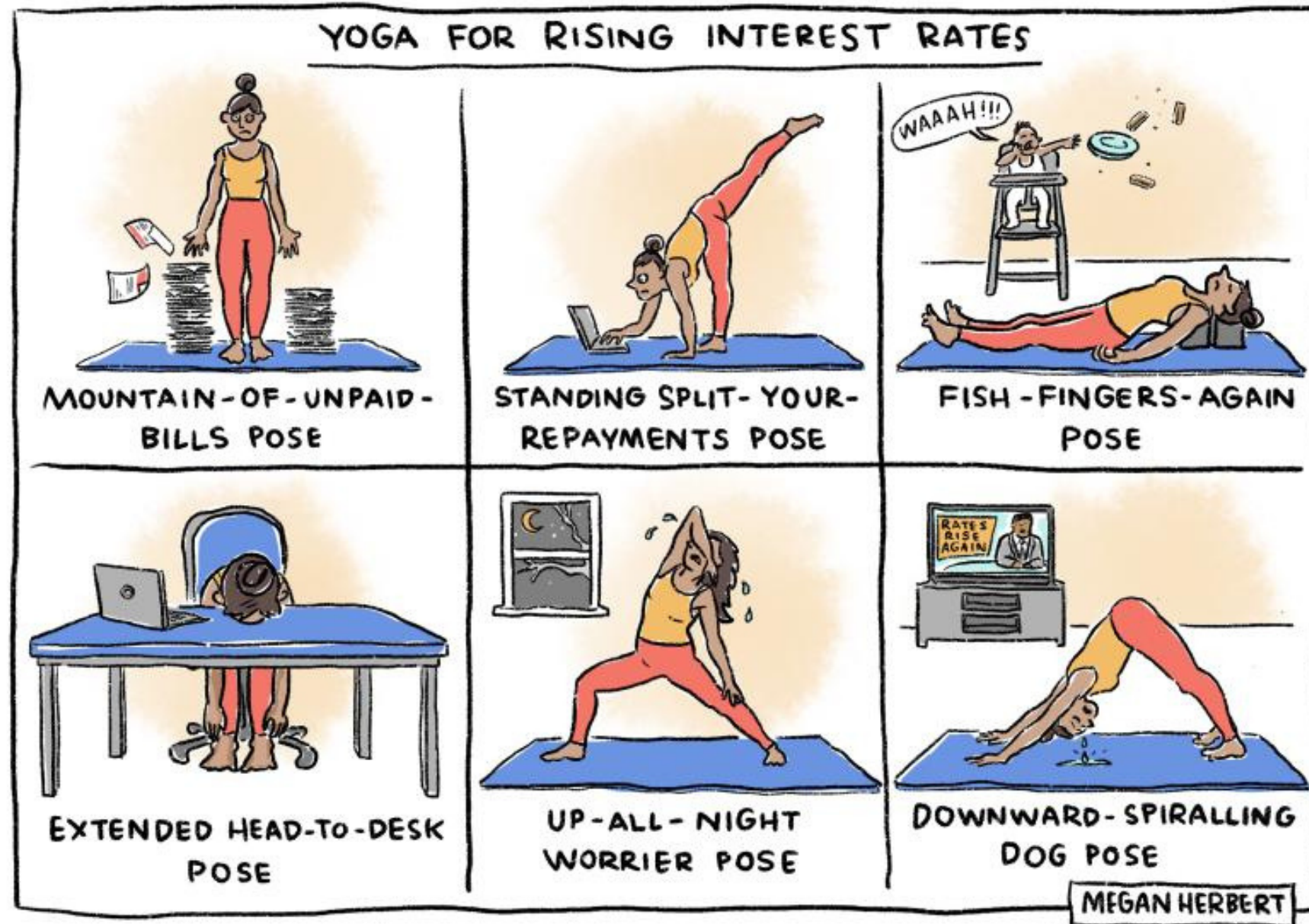
Behind the Lines 2022

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- Describe what is happening in this cartoon.
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Dig Deeper: How might the techniques used in this piece be intended to support the cartoonist's message? What impact does this have on us as readers?

Take Action! Create your own piece of media to present your point of view on this topic.



After the Reserve Bank suggested in 2021 record low interest rates could remain until 2024, it came as a shock to many homeowners when rates were raised in May 2022, for the first time since 2010. Rates steadily increased over the year - by October there had been five rate hikes in as many months. Megan Herbert reflects on some of the budgeting contortions many households had to resort to just to keep up. Behind the Lines 2022

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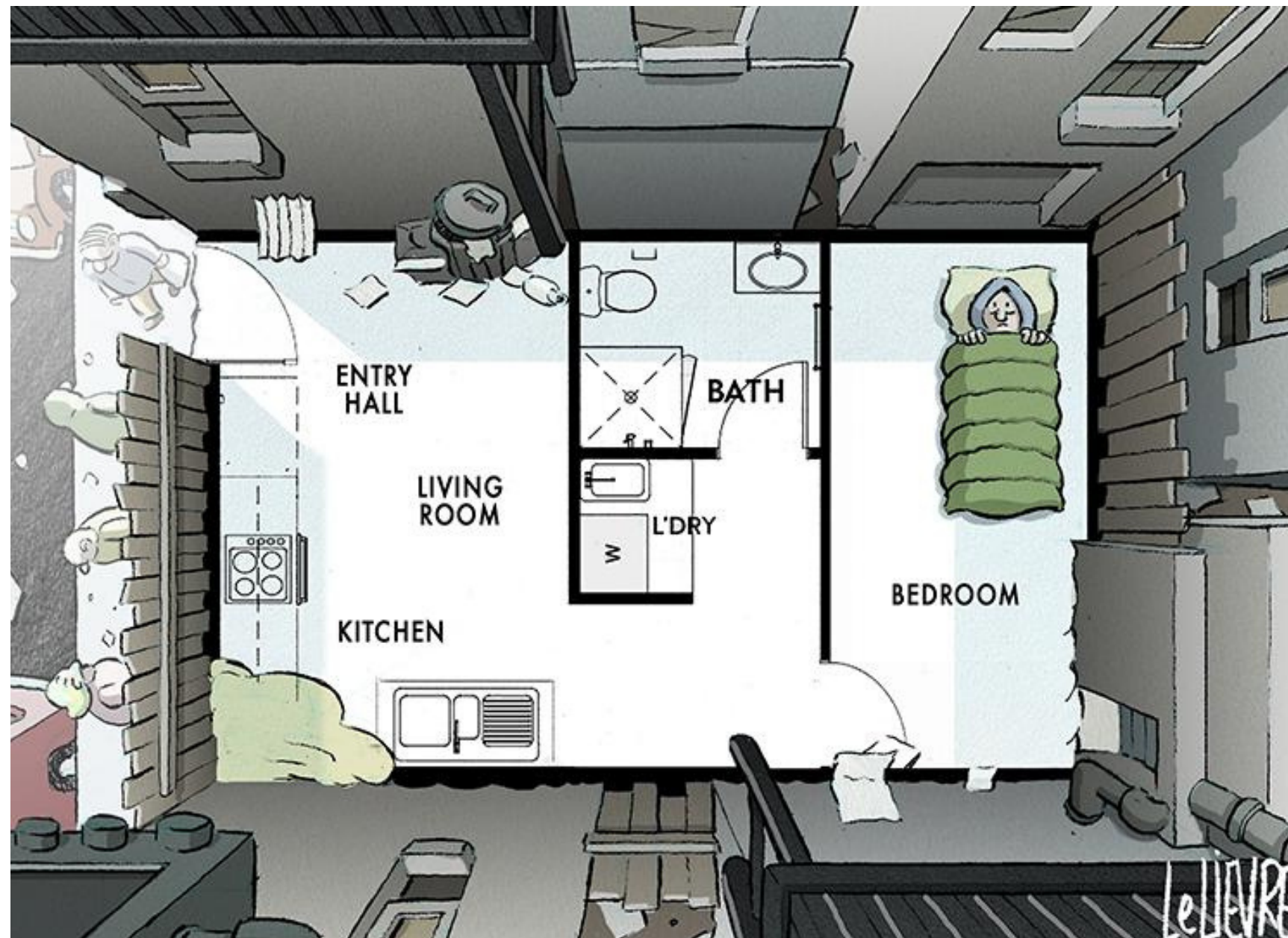
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Megan Herbert

Yoga For Rising Interest Rates

The Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, 8 August 2022



Glen Le Lievre

Floor Plan

Self-Published, 18 May 2023

In a time of increasing homelessness and politicking over housing, Glen Le Lievre laments the lack of adequate houses and apartments being built in urban centres.

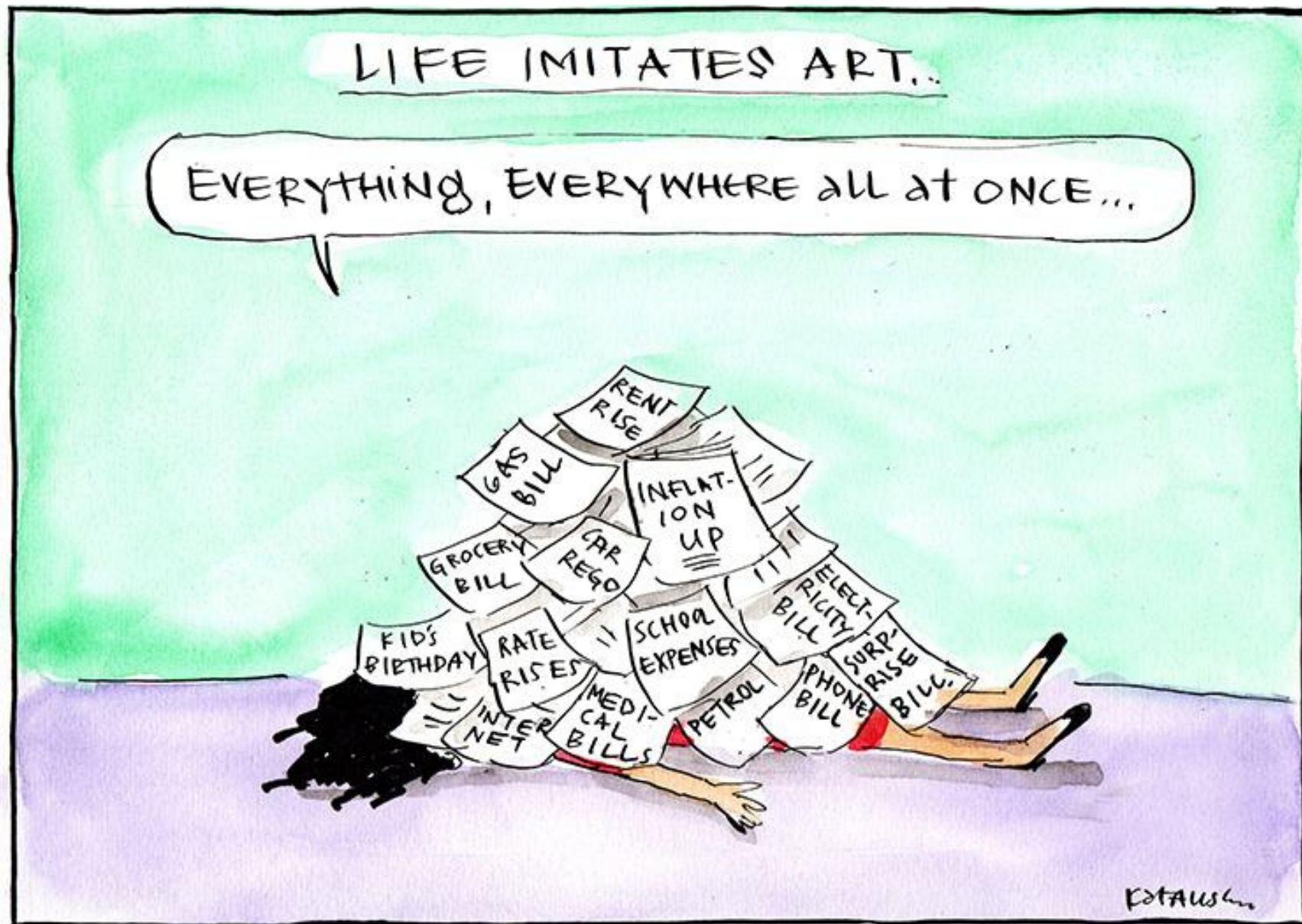
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Fiona Katauskas

No Hollywood Ending

The Echidna, 15 March 2023

Fiona Katauskas's cartoon encapsulates the challenges of 2023 for many people: a person lies sprawled on the floor swamped by a pile of common household bills, from 'Rent rise' to 'Surprise bill'. The title of the 2022 Academy Award-winning film, *Everything Everywhere All at Once*, ironically illustrates the feelings of Australians facing cost-of-living pressures.

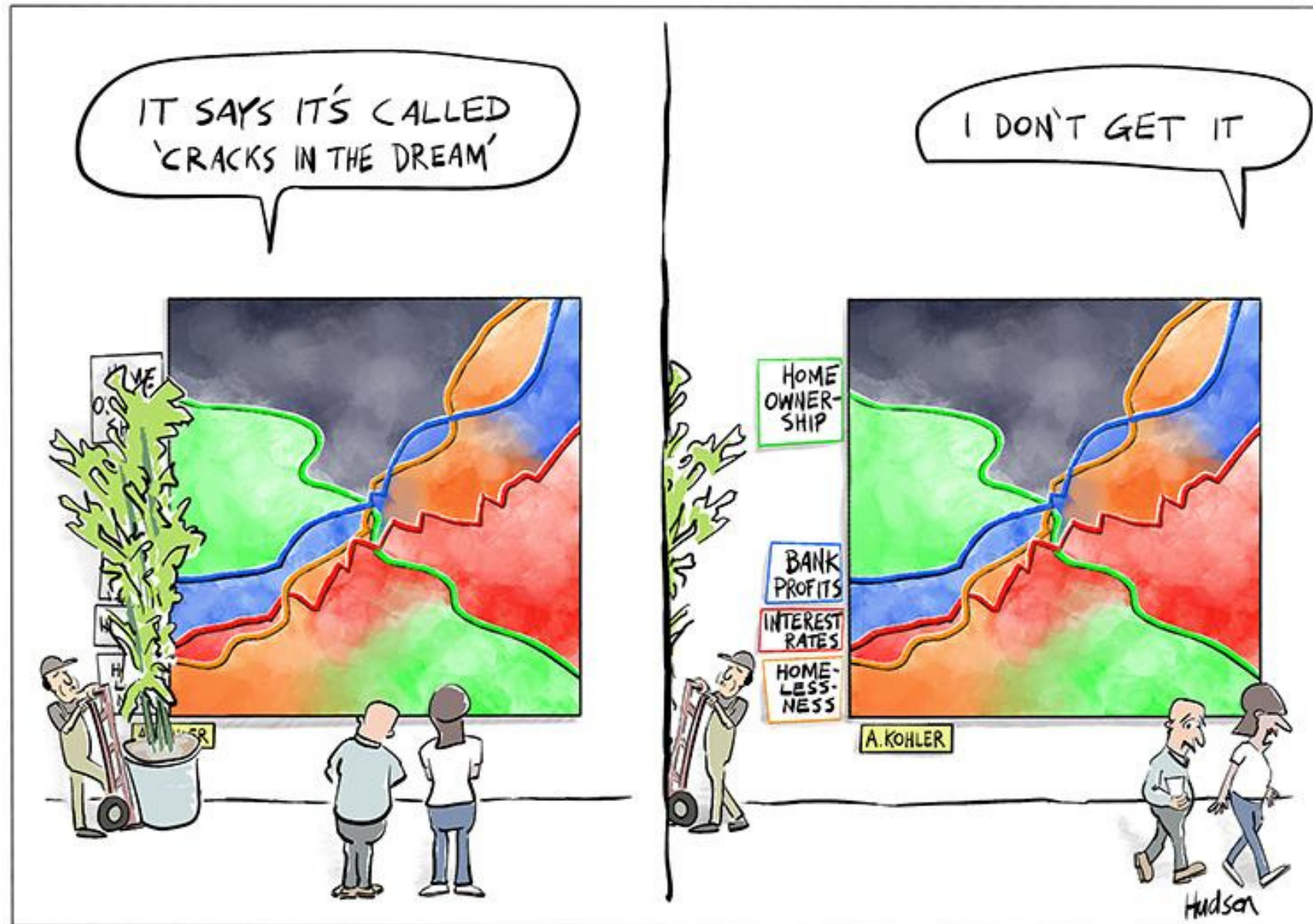
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Pat Hudson

The Art of It

Self-Published, 4 May 2023

'The great Australian dream' of home ownership is a term that dates back to the post-Second World War era. Pat Hudson imagines a modern painting, attributed to ABC finance journalist Alan Kohler, that shows how rising interest rates, record bank profits and greater levels of homelessness have combined to push the dream out of the reach of many Australians.

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Warren Brown

Cartoon Rates

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney), 3 May 2022

Only days before the federal election, the Reserve Bank announced that interest rates would rise. The rises didn't end there, and as rates steadily increased they became characters in their own right in many cartoonists' work.

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Alan Moir

We're Going to Lose the House!

The Sydney Morning Herald, 1988

When our share market followed Wall Street's collapse in October 1987, many feared it meant another Great Depression. It didn't. The boom just moved to the property market, eventually necessitating big rises in interest rates to bring it under control. It could have been the end for Bob Hawke and Paul Keating at the 1990 election, but Labor stayed in control of the Lower House for another six years.

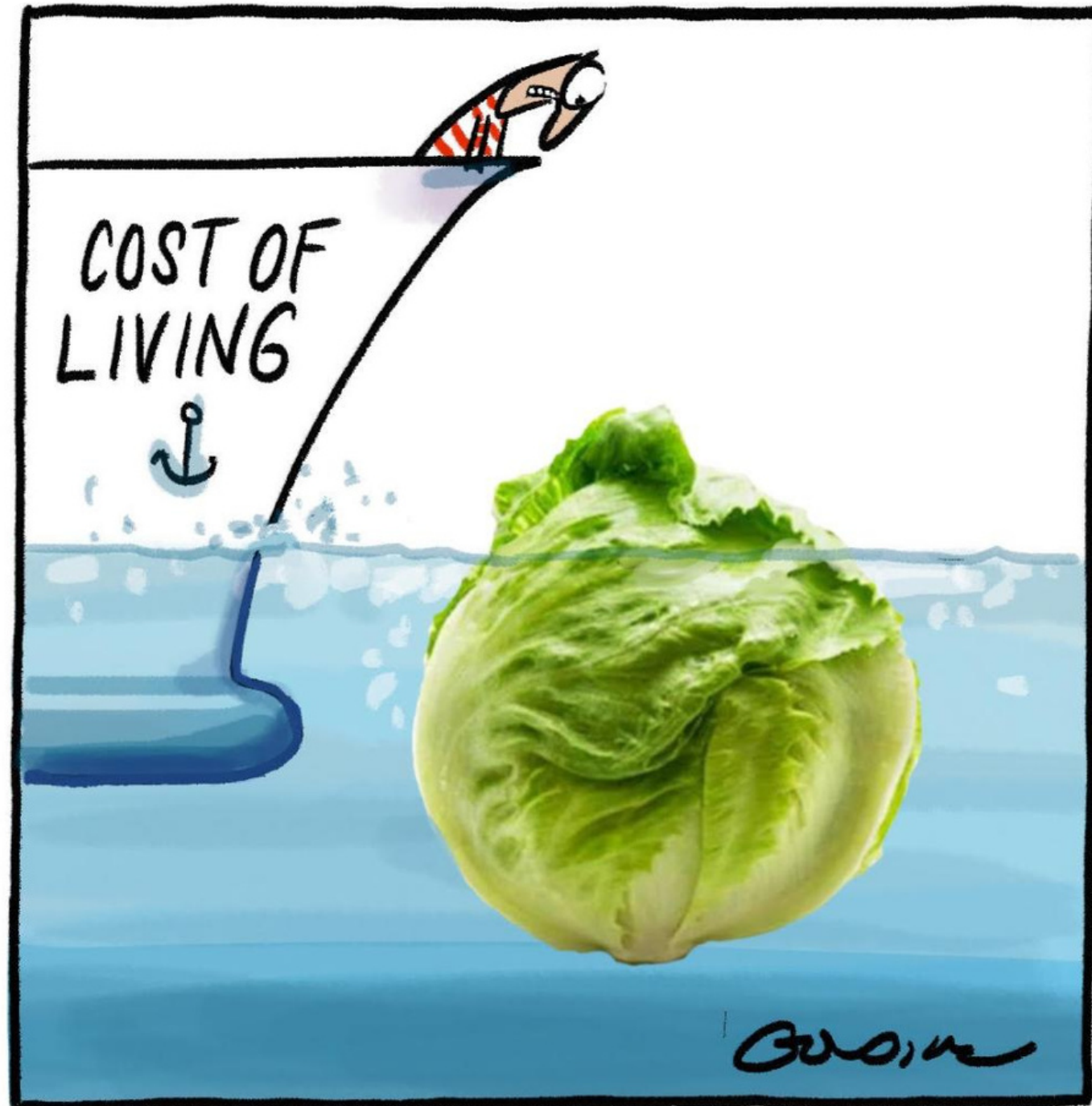
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Matt Golding

The Cost of Living Iceberg

The Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, 19 June 2022

An overpriced lettuce became the totem for Australia's economic concerns in June, when a perfect storm of factors – flood-destroyed crops, supply chain interruptions, inflation, COVID-19 outbreaks – saw the leafy vegetable hit \$11. Matt Golding's visual pun played with the imminent threat to the 'good ship' Cost of Living posed by the humble 'iceberg'. Behind the Lines 2022

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WINTER in AUSTRALIA'S GLORIFIED TENTS

(ie. terribly insulated homes)



The shock of icy toilet seats.



The 'COME ON HOT WATER' dance.



Swearing.



Cold rooms = out of bounds.



Your cat begins to tolerate you.



Dreaming of Summer...

@JesHarwoodArt

Jess Hanwood

The Winter of Our DisconTENT

The Guardian Australia, 24 May 2023

The cost-of-living crisis drove many Australian political cartoonists to respond. In this cartoon, artist and campaigner Jess Harwood empathises with some everyday difficulties and addresses the irony that in a relatively hot country like Australia homes are freezing in winter because they are so badly insulated. Neither do they perform well in extreme heat.

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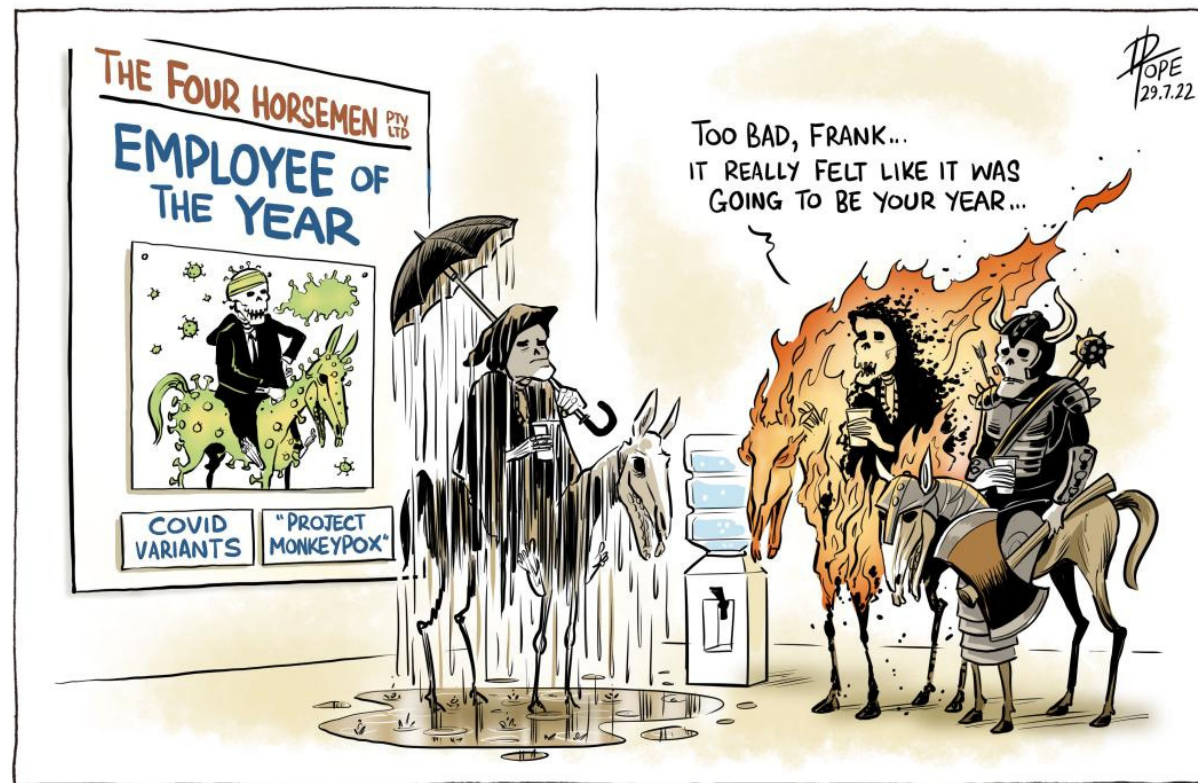
Horses for Courses,
Fiona Katauskas, The
Guardian, 3 June
2023

Cartoons from different years, artists and perspectives can give insight into how **social, political and cultural values change** over time.

comparing:
involves identifying
similarities and/or
differences

Juxtaposition:
is the act of placing two or
more things side by side
often to compare or
contrast

contrasting:
involves comparing two or
more things to look for
their differences



Employee of the Year,
David Pope The Canberra
Times, 29 July 2022

Questions:

- What do you notice? What are your first impressions of these cartoons?
- Look for similarities such as artist, time period, themes, composition, and cartooning techniques. Where are the key differences in these pieces?
- What could we learn about changes in key issues, or in the cartoonists' perspectives from these two images?
- Pick two cartoons from this curated collection to compare and contrast. How can it be useful to access a variety of perspectives and thoughts on a topic?