



Biotech in the real world

Lab Rat hopes everyone watched last week's excellent piece of reportage on the ABC's *Four Corners*, about the respective merits of A2 vs A1 milk, recently featured in this magazine.

One Melbourne cafe owner sure watched it — the next day the blackboard outside Luxe, in St Kilda, read “Would you like A1 or A2 milk with your coffee?”.

Sadly, the proprietor told Lab Rat that he was only trying to get up the nose of Melbourne's coffee aficionados and the cafe didn't really serve A2 milk, developed by Kiwi biotech A2 Corp and only for sale in Australia through one NSW dairy. “I'm waiting for the day when they come in and order an A2 latte,” he sighed.

And besides, his 14-year-old daughter had told him the debate was all bull anyway: “They haven't discovered anything yet.”

Let it flow

Lab Rat thought it would never get over the thrill of coming across a



photo on the internet of dozens of bearded CSIRO scientists posing for the tireless cameras of the *Annals of Improbable Research* (at www.improb.com) for its Bearded Men Issue of a couple of years back. But life just got better — the peerless journal has formed the Luxuriant Flowing Hair Club for Scientists, inspired by celeb scientist Steven Pinker of MIT.

But what's this? Only a handful of Australians are members of a club dominated by hair-proud Americans. And as this photo of member Murray Fletcher, senior research scientist at the Orange Agricultural Institute, shows, it doesn't matter which of your body hairs are luxuriant and flowing for you to join the club. C'mon Aussie, or we'll have to make a few nominations of our own. For more, visit www.improb.com/projects/hair/hair-club-top.html