

Sunday



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HOT CHEESEBOARD: Cracker trivia: the holes in crackers are there to prevent air pockets forming, and they're called 'docking holes'; Snax are too crumbly for cheeseboards; rice crackers are too puritan; water crackers are delicious; and cracked pepper flavour should be as fancy as crackers get. The current champion of cheeses is **Mainland Special Reserve Creamy Blue**, a winning \$5 per 100g at supermarkets. Pair that with **Rutherford & Meyer's pear paste** (four stars from *Escape's* Food Detective), which costs about \$7 from supermarkets, and you're away laughing. CW

HOT DRINK: **Elderflower cordial**, because it tastes like lemons, melons, lychees, apples and honey, because it goes well with gin and tonic, because although you could make it yourself, the elder blooms only in November and December, so you're completely justified in buying it for \$15 a bottle. Addmore (addmore.co.nz) elderflower cordial was a runner-up in *Cuisine's* Artisan Food Awards last year, but our uneducated palates prefer the version by Aroha (arohadrinks.com). CW ■

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★ hot beach

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