



BORDERlands

News from across the border

March, 2018
Volume 21 Issue 1

Dear members, shareholders and friends of the Borderlands Cooperative...

Happy belated New Year (and that includes those who don't necessarily have their new year on the 1st of January...!) and here's hoping that 2018 might be better than the year just passed... just a tiny little bit better would suffice to make me 'happy'...

We're a bit late with this first newsletter of our 21st year which started after the 21st of December 2017, when we celebrated our twentieth anniversary. There were about 40 others ranging across all Borderlands' 'generations': a few were there in 1997 at our launch and then all of those joining at various moments during the 20 years and continued to 'hang out' with us... It was a quiet but happy occasion in the Augustine Hall with the 20 metres-long calico cloth adorned with remnants of our year-by-year activities, events, projects, people, sad losses of friends along the road, etc.... (thank you, Claire Sidlow for helping with its completion!) We created a little celebratory booklet and have still a bunch of copies, so let us know whether you would like one...

We have been welcoming several 'new' people at Borderlands; as we also held our AGM on the 21st of December, Lesley, Olga, John and I were either re-elected as Directors or they moved into the second year of their tenure. Rene Sephton was elected as a 'new' director... she has been working on her PhD and has spent quite a bit of time with us already—she certainly brings down the average age of our Directors' group... as did the arrival of Daniel de Bruin, our new student on placement and Monica Knoll, who is taking on several tasks at the New Community... And they are not the only 'young ones' who have decided to spend time at Borderlands... So look out for all manner of exciting things to start happening... we already announced a series of monthly conversations (picking up on a long-standing past tradition) and we're thinking about several programs to offer again or for the first time... So watch this space!

We had a great meeting with several well-known Community Development 'personalities' (Jim Iffe, Sue Kenny, Peter Westoby and Tina Lathouris) with whom the 'managing committee' spent much of last Friday to figure out a way—or many ways—to increase both the number of subscribers and to make the journal a useful generator of a much needed reinvigoration of Community Development. Given the times we inhabit and which—as you will agree—need all the collective energy we can muster to resist the impositions of the dreadful politics and even more dreadful economics surrounding us at present—such reinvigoration is desperately needed and we certainly want to play our role(s) in it. If you can, please subscribe to the only community development journal in Australia and let friends and colleagues and your organisations know about its existence. We are improving our 'systems' and a very much enlivened website will soon be operating...

Please give us a ring or 'pop-in' some time soon and let's have a chat! We're looking forward to seeing or hearing from you!

Jacques Boulet for the Borderlands Board

Borderlands Co-operative Ltd.
2 Minona Street, Hawthorn
P.O. Box 3079, Auburn 3123
Victoria AUSTRALIA
Ph. 9819 3239 and 9819 3439

Events and workshops

- **Ecologically Sustainable Community Development 4 & 5 June**
- **April 30 — conversation: The Crisis in Our Institutions**
- **Woven Threads – the dilemma presented by our clothing 15 & 16 May**
- **Leading in Community 25 & 26 May**
- **May 28 — conversation: Relating: for example Gender and sex**
- **Social Research, Evaluation & Monitoring 5 & 6 July**
- **June 25 —conversation: Loneliness**
- **Advanced Community Development 25 & 26 June**
- **Storytelling in Community (to be rescheduled dates t.b.a.)**

Newsletter Deadlines

This newsletter is to inform you of all the Borderlands happenings.

We need your input!

Please send articles or details of your latest events etc. (preferably in electronic format) to the Editor at:

borders@borderlands.org.au

Deadline for the next issue :
15th of May 2018

New Community



CALL FOR ARTICLES

Volume 16, #1, Issue 61 (March 2018)

Community Development and Health: reconnecting the dots
Now in press

Volume 16, #2, Issue 62 (June 2018)

Talking about the 'social' media and the internet... are they 'good' for 'community' and its 'development'...? Submissions by May 27

The publication of John Naughton's 'new' 95 theses about Technology (www.95theses.co.uk), exactly on the 500th anniversary of Luther's fastening of his original 95 theses against the door of the church in Wittenberg deserves comment... indeed, Naughton adds to a growing body of research and literature about the personal, social and environmental harms inflicted on humans and the world by the explosive growth of the facebook, twitter, Instagram, linked-in, amazon ... the lot of the so-called 'social' media. What do we think about this phenomenon as it relates to the health and functioning of our communities and, more broadly, our relational and personal lives...? And as one of his 95 theses forcefully counterclaims that – contrary to Mark Zuckerberg's pretensions – facebook is *NOT a community*, what do we think...? Let's start a necessary conversation...

Volume 16, #3, Issue 63 (September 2018)

Community and Diversity... a matter of survival Submissions by July 29

Monocultures are not just boring environments to be in, their chances of survival in the long run are close to zero... and that's not just what ecologists, informed farmers, permaculture people, foresters (Peter Wohlleben's *The Hidden Life of Trees* a must!!!) and assorted critical thinkers tell us (and have for quite a while!).... All basically remind us that any community which is not diverse will survive and when we think our *human* communities as part of the *multispecies* communities we too often ignore or consider just 'there' for our enjoyment and utility, the realisation of 'diversity' and 'connection' and 'interdependence' becomes even more relevant. This issue of the New Community invites practical examples as well as theoretical explorations of 'community diversity' – if only to strengthen our 'case' against the ever-louder voices arguing for singularity, against 'otherness', for 'one nation' and other reactionary slogans...

Volume 16, #4 Issue 64

What do we mean with 'inclusion'? Community and people of different abilities (including the 'ageing'...) Submissions by September 29

New Community 2017

It would be lovely if our readers would spread the news about this journal and help us increase the number of subscribers...

And please get writing! We need your contributions for this journal to be a true Community journal.

Article guidelines or requesting a subscription can be obtained by contacting us by:

Email: ncq@borderlands.org.au

Facebook: New Community or call

Borderlands: (03) 9819 3239



Borderlands Newsletter

Volume 21 Issue 1— March, 2018

Published by Borderlands Cooperative

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Phone (03) 9819 3239 and 9819 3439

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www.borderlands.org.au

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Admin. and other support:

Martha Hills & Lesley Shuttleworth

Please send artwork, articles, letters, poetry, creative writing, for inclusion in the newsletter.

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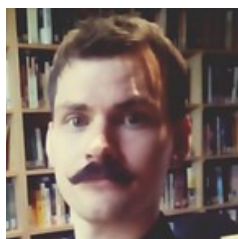
Monica Knoll

Welcome, welcome, welcome!

We are really happy to welcome Monica to the Borderlands and New Community team(s). Monica is a Design graduate, who has recently come on board of 'New Community' to assume its editorial design and data-base management. She is a talented graphic designer with a passion for human rights and great interest in community development and environmental issues. She has merged seamlessly into our Borderlands life as if she's been here forever, her enthusiasm, fresh ideas and commitment so much welcome in our office. She has just delivered her first issue of the New Community to the printer and we all look forward to the 'end-product'. Be sure to subscribe now if you haven't already!

**Daniel de Bruin**

What can one even say about such a handsome student? (obviously, I'm writing this myself). I started my placement as a final year Social Work student (Victoria University) at Borderlands a few months ago. I have an ever-expanding interest in Ecological or 'Green' Social work (that being one of the reasons I had sought out Jacques and Borderlands). I'd like to believe that I have a strong work ethic and enduring belief in the importance of anti-oppressive practice, coupled with engaging interpersonal skills and a great interest in the ever-growing need to work with people and the environment. I believe we need to respect all living things alongside their socio-cultural and physical environments and bring about change in a sustainable and all-inclusive way. At present, I'm working alongside Monica on updating the New Community Journal database. I'm really enjoying the Borderlands library, and I welcome anyone and everyone to come along and join me!



We intend to continue with our
**Community Lunches and
 Conversations in 2018—our
 21st year**

As per usual in the Borderlands
 library from 12:00 noon
Thursdays 15/03, 19/04

For catering purposes please R.S.V.P.
 Lesley@borderlands.org.au or call us
 on 9819 3239 and please bring something to share or assist with a gold coin

After the lunch, our monthly Board
 Meeting will take place.

**News from the Borderlands & Social
 Developers' Network partnership**

Borderlands is now managing the community grants program for NED Inc. which is closely allied with the Social Developers Network (SDN) with which we have had a long association (see p .

NED Inc. supports individuals and small organisations by funding projects which align with its broad goals of building a life-enhancing, inclusive ethos; improving linkages, mutual acceptance and co-operation; maximising our human potential; steering ourselves effectively and collectively towards a future for our planet, and promoting and supporting Restorative Practice.

NED Inc. favours programs or projects that: "fall between the cracks" of other funding sources; are not associated with well-established organisations with significant reserves and /or who are capable of raising their own funds; and are not eligible for funding from government or other sources.

For more information contact Lesley at Borderlands on
 (03) 9819 3439 Mobile 0428 488 215 or e-mail
lesley@borderlands.org.au

JOIN ONE OF OUR WORKSHOPS, WALKS OR CONVERSATIONS IN 2018

All of our activities are focussed on restoring our capabilities for relating, re-connecting us with our place in the natural world and with one another and our-selves.

WORKSHOPS

(Run from 9.30am—5pm; lunch included).

- Ecologically Sustainable Community Development 4 & 5 June
- Social Research, Evaluation & Monitoring 5 & 6 July
- Advanced Community Development 25 & 26 June
- Storytelling in Community (moved to May - tbc)
- Leading in Community 25 & 26 May
- Woven Threads – the dilemma presented by our clothing 15 & 16 May

WALKS

These intentional walks are designed to bring us back into the realisation that we are part of the natural world and to open a conversation.

- Yarra River Walk - to be advised
- Dromana Walk - to be confirmed
- Dunkeld Walk - to be confirmed
- Plenty Gorge Walk—to be confirmed

ESSENTIAL CONVERSATIONS

Come along to our monthly conversations and explore some of the issues. Please bring supper to share. Your donations would be welcome.

Last Monday of each month 7—8.30pm in the library.

- April 30 —The Crisis in Our Institutions
- May 28 —Relating: for example Gender and sex
- June 25 —Loneliness
- July 30 —Matters of Life and Death
- August 27 —(In-)equality
- September 24 —Eldership and Ancestors
- October 29 —A Culture of Shame
- November 26 —Our place in wilderness
- Homelessness; Human Rights early 2019

DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE IN MARCH 2018

www.borderlands.org.au

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SYMPOSIUM

NEWCASTLE AS A RESTORATIVE CITY SYMPOSIUM
14-15 JUNE 2018

Update: The deadline for the Call for Presenters for the symposium has been extended till 5pm, Thursday 8 March 2018.

We are inviting restorative practitioners, researchers and policy makers to submit proposals for a **paper presentation*** (35 mins including 10 mins discussion), **panel discussion** (70 mins), or **workshop** (70 mins) relating to the four conference themes (restorative practices or approaches relating to justice, community, education and health). The proposal should include:

Title of the presentation/panel/workshop

Type of presentation: paper, discussion panel, workshop

Biography & photograph of presenter/s (200 words)

Summary of the presentation (300 words)

Keywords describing the presentation/discussion (also indicate the theme/s: justice, education, community, health)

We are also seeking members of the community to share restorative practices, partnerships and programs already used in their workplace for our 'showcase' sessions on local initiatives. Presenters should submit a two-page description of their restorative practices and/or program, including photographs or other audio-visual material. The showcase session will feature up to four local initiatives, with presenters speaking for eight minutes each, with eight minutes question time.

Please submit proposals to uonlawevents@newcastle.edu.au in a Word document by 5.00pm on Thursday 8 March 2018. We will confirm whether presentations have been accepted by 5:00pm Thursday 22nd March.

***Full papers are due by 5.00pm on Friday 8 May 2018**, which will either be published as conference proceedings or may be submitted for publication in a special issue of the Newcastle Law Review. PowerPoint presentations or other multimedia materials to be used in presentations should be submitted by 31st May 2018.

Please include "Call for presenters – Full Name" in the subject line of your email. All submissions will be reviewed.

All presenters must be registered at the conference. We have a reduced fee for presenters at \$380. If your paper is accepted you will receive an email with a restricted link for the reduced presenters fee. All submissions must be in English.

Please note: the submission of a paper is an indication of a commitment to attend the Newcastle Restorative City Symposium. If a paper is accepted, at least one author must attend the symposium to present the paper.

Further information regarding the symposium can be found here.

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/about-uon/governance-and-leadership/faculties-and-schools/faculty-of-business-and-law/conferences/newcastle-as-a-restorative-city-symposium>

Four Truths About the Florida School Shooting

By Adam Gopnik February 15, 2018

Onto the continuing tragedy of American gun violence are now piled many kinds of grotesquerie, not least the e-mails, sure to come to any parent with kids still in school anywhere in the country, offering “*tips on talking to children about violence*” and promising that your child’s school “*has been performing lockdown drill protocols that our security team and consultants have recommended to ensure that we are prepared in the unlikely event that an incident occurs.*” We have normalized gun killings to the point that we must now be reassured that, when the person with the AR-15 comes to your kid’s school, there’s a plan to cope with him. (That the planning is almost worthless is proved by the killings in Florida, where the murderer may have taken advantage of his knowledge of the lockdown protocols in order to kill more students.) Here, though, are four simple truths worth saying again, in the aftermath of the Florida massacre, about gun control and gun violence.

1. The gun lobby, and the Republican Party it controls, have accepted as a matter of necessity the ongoing deaths of hundreds of children as the price that they are prepared to pay for the fetishization of weapons. The claim of this lobby’s complicity in murder is not exaggerated or hysterical but, by now, quite simple and precise: when you refuse to act to stop a social catastrophe from happening, you are responsible for the consequences of the social catastrophe. If you refuse to immunize your children and a measles epidemic breaks out, you are implicated in the measles. If you refuse to pay money for sewers and cholera breaks out, you are complicit in the cholera. Acts have consequences. This complicity includes all of the hand-wringers and the tut-tutters and the “*nothing to be done*”-ers as much as the N.R.A. hardcore. Many people have predicted, repeatedly, that one gun massacre would lead to the next—and that more gun massacres would probably take place in one year in America than in the rest of the civilized world combined—and they have been proved right, and then right again. Since everyone knew that this would happen again, those who did nothing to stop it happening again—and everything they did to see that no one else could do anything to stop it happening again—are complicit when it happens, again.
2. The claim that gun massacres are mysterious or difficult or bewildering or resistant to legislation is a lie. When people say that nothing can be done because this law wouldn’t stop this one, or that law that one, they are acting in ignorance of the most significant and obvious fact: that no other modernized society experiences remotely the frequency or the horror of American gun killings. There is no mystery at all to stopping this, if there is a minimal will to stop it. A huge, repeated body of social science shows that gun control controls gun violence, and largely eliminates gun massacres, within the normal limits of human action. (People still die of infections; that is no argument against the efficacy of antibiotics. Crimes continue on our streets; that is no argument against the thousand small sanities that have so dramatically reduced violent crime in our cities.) If we had gun laws like the gun laws in Canada or in Britain, we would have gun violence at the level that it exists in Canada and Britain. There is no special American quiddity that would alter this—to insist otherwise is as irrational as insisting that American kids shouldn’t be immunized because American kids have a different kind of immunity than other kids. They don’t. Building small barriers to gun violence reduces all gun violence. The lesson of contemporary social science is that small difficulties have great effects; make crime harder and you have much less crime. Make getting guns harder and you will have fewer people using them. Merely make gun ownership as demanding as, say, car ownership, with a license to obtain and insurance to buy, and you will see a drastic reduction in gun violence and perhaps a near-end to the mass killings of children.
3. The Second Amendment is not a barrier to gun sanity. The reading, from left to right, of the amendment was—until the day before yesterday, historically speaking—that it provided no guarantee to the individual ownership of guns. The notion that it does is novel, radical, and wrong.
4. The attempt to turn the question of gun violence into a question of mental health is obscene. Of course, people who kill children en masse are crazy. That’s the given. Saying this says nothing; every country contains mentally ill and potentially violent people. Only America arms them. When Donald Trump, who last year signed a bill to end a mild Obama-era rule designed to keep mass-killing weapons out of the hands of people with certain mental illnesses, talks about reporting people who are “mentally disturbed” to the proper authorities—well, irony piles upon irony, and the only adequate tribute is contempt and silence.

Why corporate promises to cut carbon can't be trusted

Relying on markets and corporate responses to the climate crisis will not work, because profits always come first

Christopher Wright and Daniel Nyberg—authors of *Climate Change, Capitalism and Corporations: Processes of Creative Self-Destruction* (Cambridge University Press, 2015). From: *London School of Economic Business Review*

Climate change is now the ever-present reality of human experience. Late last year we witnessed a procession of huge hurricanes batter the US and Caribbean, the largest wildfires on record burn through California, and in Australia, despite the death of up to half of the Great Barrier Reef in back-to-back coral bleaching events, political support for new mega-coal mines and coal-fired power stations. While there is now a clear scientific consensus that the world is on track for global temperature increases of 4 degrees Celsius by century's end (threatening the very viability of human civilization), our political and economic masters continue to double down on the fossil fuel bet, transforming perhaps the greatest threat to life on this planet into *'business as usual'*.

One response to the failure of government has been a belief that markets and corporate innovation will provide the solution to the climate crisis. As business tycoon Richard Branson has proclaimed "our only option to stop climate change is for industry to make money from it." Thus while business corporations are major contributors to escalating GHG emissions, they are also often presented as offering innovative ways to decarbonise our economies. But how much faith can we place in corporations to save us from climate change?

In a recently published paper, we explore how major business corporations translate the grand challenge of climate change into strategies, policies and practices over an extended period of time. Our research involved a detailed cross-case analysis of five major corporations operating in Australia over ten years, from 2005 to 2015. During this period, climate change became a central issue in political and economic debate, leading to a range of regulatory, market, and physical risks and opportunities, and each of these five companies were leaders in publicly promoting their engagement with this issue.

However, despite different industry contexts (banking, manufacturing, insurance, media and energy) we found a common pattern over time in which initial statements of climate leadership degenerated into the more mundane concerns of conventional business activity. A key factor in this deterioration of corporate environmental initiatives was on-going criticism from shareholders, the media, governments, and other corporations and managers. This *'market critique'* continuously revealed the underlying tensions between the demands of radical decarbonisation and more basic business imperatives of profit and shareholder value.

The corporate translation of climate change into business as usual involved three phases. In the first framing phase, senior executives presented climate change as a strategic business issue and set out how their businesses could provide innovation and solutions. Here, managers associated climate change with specific meanings and issues such as *"innovation," "opportunity," "leadership"* and *"win-win outcomes,"* while ruling out more negative or threatening understandings (e.g. *"doom and gloom," "regulation," "sacrifice"*).

In a classic expression of this win-win ethos, the global sustainability manager of one of our case organisations (and one of the world's largest industrial conglomerates) argued:

"We're eliminating the false choice between great economics and the environment. We're looking for products that will have a positive and powerful impact on the environment and on the economy."

While these general statements of intent responded to the inherent tension between corporate and environmental interests, convincing stakeholders of the benefits of *"greening"* initiatives was never assured, and critiques evolved amongst stakeholders and customers who felt their organizations' environmental efforts either lacked sincerity or failed to satisfy profit motives.

In a second localizing phase, managers sought to make these initial framings directly relevant by implementing practices of improved eco-efficiency, *"green"* products and services, and promoting the need for climate action. Internal measures of corporate worth were developed to demonstrate the *"business case"* of climate responses (e.g. savings from reduced energy consumption, measures of increased employee satisfaction and engagement, sales figures from new *"green"* products and services, and carbon pricing mechanisms).

Companies also sought to communicate the benefits of these initiatives both to employees through corporate culture change initiatives, as well as external stakeholders such as customers, clients, NGOs and political parties.

However, over time these practices attracted renewed criticism from other managers, shareholders, the media, and politicians and in a third normalizing stage, climate change initiatives were wound back and market concerns prioritized. In this stage, the temporary compromise between market and social/environmental discourses was broken and corporate executives sought to realign climate initiatives with the dominant corporate logic of maximizing shareholder value.

Examples here included declining corporate fortunes and new CEOs who promoted a *"back to basics"* strategy, the shifting political context which unwound climate-focused policy measures like the Clean Energy legislation, new fossil-fuel related business opportunities, and the dilution of climate initiatives within broader and less specific *"sustainability"* and *"resilience"* programs. As one senior manager in a major insurance company acknowledged: *"Look, that was all a nice thing to have in good times but now we're in hard times. We get back to core stuff."*

Our analysis thus highlights the policy limitations of relying on market and corporate responses to the climate crisis. We need to imagine a future that goes beyond the comfortable assumptions of corporate self-regulation and *"market solutions,"* and accept the need for mandatory regulation of fossil fuel extraction and use. In an era in which neoliberalism still dominates political imaginations around the world, our research thus highlights *'an inconvenient truth'* for political and business elites; the folly of over-dependence on corporations and markets in addressing perhaps the gravest threats to our collective future.

How media framing limits public debate about oil exploration

Sophie Bond Senior lecturer in geography, University of Otago, **Amanda Thomas** Lecturer in Environmental Studies, Victoria University of Wellington, **Gradon Diprose** Senior Lecturer in Social Sciences, Open Polytechnic.

Throughout the world, people are taking direct action to tackle environmental problems – from *Standing Rock* in the United States, to the *Carmichael* coal mine in Australia, to the community groups standing against oil and gas exploration in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Some of the most important societal changes have been made because of direct action, but this isn't always the story the mainstream media reports.

Our research has focused on the media framing of the debate surrounding oil and gas developments in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We found that it shifted discussions towards how drilling should take place, rather than whether it should happen at all.

Framing avoids real debate

We interviewed more than 50 people, including climate activists, representatives from non-government organisations and the oil and gas sector, and local government officers. We also analysed mainstream media coverage over a period of six years.

The research shows that mainstream media in Aotearoa New Zealand tended to present further fossil fuel development as something positive for the economy, and therefore society. Opponents have tended to be framed as irrational, few, and extremist.

For example, former prime minister John Key was quoted describing Greenpeace as “rent-a-crowd” or a 7,000-strong protest as a “few people wandering around the beach”.

One view that was commonly emphasised in reporting is that protesters are taking their democratic right to protest too far. This was illustrated in 2016, when the climate activist group 350.org organised direct actions

throughout Aotearoa New Zealand, as part of a series of global *Break Free* events. They targeted branches of ANZ bank to inform customers about its NZ\$13 billion investment in the fossil fuel industry.

A case study

In 2016, in the small university town of Dunedin, around 200 climate activists blockaded three ANZ branches. Many customers delayed their banking or went somewhere else, but some were encouraged by police to use “reasonable force” to climb over the protesters who were blocking the doors.

Until this point, mainstream media outlets had resisted negative framing of protesters, and had quoted activists at length in their reporting of the blockade. After police told bank customers to climb over the protesters, an elderly woman tried to make her way into the bank. Bank staff and activists encouraged her to use a side door, but police insisted on her going through the blockade.

Reporting of the protests quickly changed and activists were portrayed as disrespectful and taking the protest too far. Social media erupted, and 350.org Aotearoa's Facebook page attracted more than 2,000 comments within a few hours, including threats of violence against the blockaders.

Even though a protester reported being kneed by police, police were represented in the media as having been balanced and compelled to act in this way.

One of the activists later wrote:

‘In the media coverage, the burden of responsibility for that [elderly] woman's distress was placed solely with us. The coverage successfully removed responsibility from ANZ and the police, who worked together to create that scenario.’

The narrative that emerged pitched decent citizens against “unemployable”, “disrespectful” protesters, with the police as benign supporters of decency and the bank as an apolitical service provider. Broader debates about climate justice and corporate responsibility were not heard in these media reports.

Media coverage limits public debate

Such media reporting about oil and gas exploration and drilling focuses on how fossil fuel extraction should take place, rather than whether it should happen at all. For example, the idea that Aotearoa New Zealand has the highest environmental standards in the world when it comes to exploration and extraction was often reported. In these reports, climate activists were portrayed as ignorant about the risks.

Discussions about the ethics of further fossil fuel extraction in a rapidly changing climate were lost – at a time when we need to be debating how we might change our economy and society to avoid the worst of climate change.

think about them. As one of the people involved in the ANZ blockade in Dunedin said:

‘People couldn’t quite register the fact that there’s a vast difference between us making the day of a couple of people a bit more inconvenient, versus climate change killing people, and making people lose their homes. That’s considerably more inconvenient than not being able to get into a bank for the day when there’s another one just down the road.’

The new government in Aotearoa New Zealand has sent some positive signals about taking climate change seriously. Consultation on a zero carbon act will begin later this year. In-depth media coverage that engages a broad range of people including activists, and pro-democracy reforms, will be essential to developing good debate and the best possible response to climate change.

Media portrayals of environmental activists as hopelessly idealistic, irrational hippies are nothing new. But when mainstream media continues to repeat these ideas, and frames the status quo as common sense, the public is denied opportunities for genuine debate about solutions to tricky environmental problems.



these women and girls at the centre of their healing process as we believe they are the experts of their lives, needs and choices. Herspace offers Trauma-informed specialised counselling for victims-survivors of sexual exploitation. We partner with local grassroots organisations to provide holistic community development programs in education, health, psychosocial support, and human rights awareness.

Trauma-informed specialised counselling for victims-survivors of sexual exploitation. We partner with local grassroots organisations to provide holistic community development programs in education, health, psychosocial support, and human rights awareness.

To learn more or to get involved, visit www.herspace.org.au

The HerSpace office is at Borderlands... do get in touch!

"Merchants of Death"

*Whiting Rings
for
Righting Wrongs*
January 2018



[Iraqi father and his burned baby - victims of the arms trade](#)

What we believe

- Violence produces violence.
- Modern weaponry increases aggression in conflict situations.
- Modern warfare is new. Unlike wars in previous millennia, [civilian fatalities](#) now account for 90% of war deaths.
- Education, addressing past wrongs, diplomacy, fair trade, working with others on common problems such as disease and climate change reduce the triggers of conflict and build peace.

Major concerns

- Australia spent \$US24.3 billion in 2016 on defence, which is 2% of its GDP. Australia plans to increase this level of spending in a bid to become a [major weapons exporter](#).
- Australian overseas aid has [declined in recent years](#). It is now [0.23% of GDP](#). Australia has thus relinquished levels of international influence which contribute to peace-building.
- The government says it will ensure that Australia's international obligations - including around arms controls - are upheld". ***No detail is given as to how such an impossible aim would be achieved. (Despite much talk, Australia was incapable of realising this regarding the 24 year occupation of East Timor.)***
- Prime Minister Turnbull said: "This strategy is about job creation. It will give Australian defence companies the support they need to grow, invest and deliver defence capability. It will make Australian defence exports among the best in the world." ***Marketing weapons for profit and for assisting flagging industries is morally wrong.***
- The necessity for Australia to protect itself cannot ethically be used as a reason for selling weapons to overseas countries and companies.

Pope Francis: "It is hypocritical to speak of peace while fuelling the arms trade, which only serves the "merchants of death," exacerbating wars not fought to "solve a problem" but to benefit the weapons industry.

"It is an absurd contradiction to speak of peace, to negotiate peace, and at the same time, to promote or allow the arms trade."

What we can do...

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister
PO Box 6022
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: Malcolm.Turnbull.MP@aph.gov.au
02 6277 7700

The Hon Bill Shorten, Leader of the Opposition
PO Box 6022
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: Bill.Shorten.MP@aph.gov.au
02 6277 4000 ...

Write....Ring...

The Hon. Christopher Pyne, Minister for Defence Industry
PO Box 6022
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: C.Pyne.MP@aph.gov.au
02 6277 7840

Senator the Hon Marise Payne, Minister for Defence
PO Box 6100
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: senator.payne@aph.gov.au
02 6277 7800

You could use some of these points, or others:

Weapons are designed to main and kill.

Instead of investing in death-dealing weapons, Australia could invest in climate and water security, support the renewables industry and create new high-tech industries as sources of economic growth.

Australia's example of gun control is envied by other nations. Why undermine this success by increasing the availability of weapons?

No number of extra jobs can excuse the threats to civilians posed by more guns.

Making money out of people's deaths is against the teaching of Christ.

It is unethical to boost the Australian economy by selling weapons.

Australian jobs would be tied to overseas instability and wars. The maintenance of this industry would depend on ensuring the continuation of wars.

A burgeoning arms industry will pressure the Australian governments to stay silent on human rights abuses carried out by potential customer governments.

There is a vast difference between a defence manufacturing industry for the protection of Australia and the creation of a weapons export industry.

Australia has cut humanitarian aid, which saves lives, and now wants to profit from the deaths of foreign civilians.

The escalation of arms increases the life of conflicts. Arms profiteering has directly affected the continuance of death and destruction now underway, e.g. in Syria and Yemen.

The government locks up innocent refugees to thwart people smugglers, but is willing to support arms manufacturers who bear responsibility for the refugee problem upon which people smuggling feeds.

More weapons means more war, more misery and more refugees.



Josephite Justice Network

Which of our trading partners will supply weapons to these "soldiers"?

How does Australia benefit from this?

josephine.mitchell@sosj.org.au



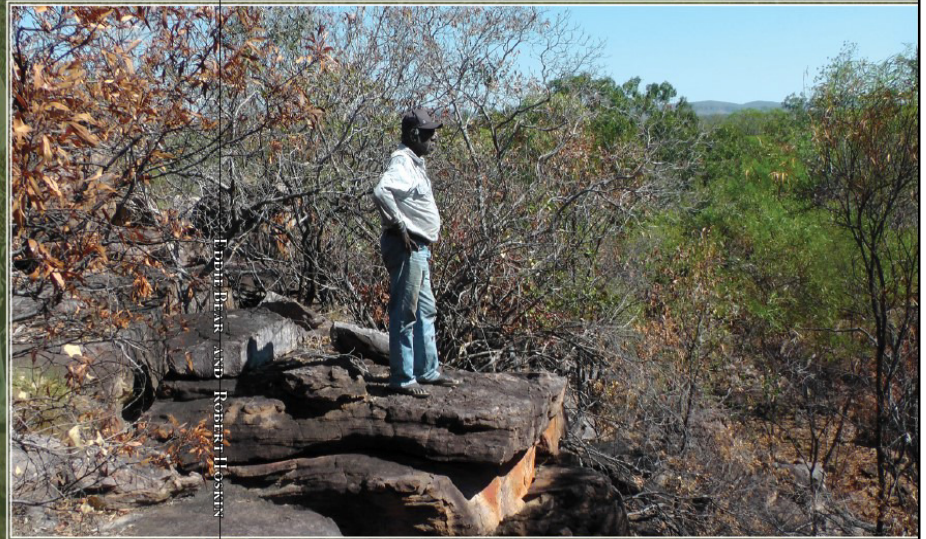
RETURN TO MAJADDIN

RETURN TO MAJADDIN

A KIMBERLEY HOMECOMING

Ngarinyin Elder and community leader, Eddie Bear shares his family story with Dr Robert Hoskin, researcher and retired minister of the Uniting Church. The story begins with life in the remote land of Majaddin in the West Kimberley and continues through colonialist incursions as his family took refuge at the Munja Aboriginal feeding station on the Kimberley Coast. Following Munja's demise, the family joined with other Ngarinyin families working on Pastoral Stations (Kimberley Downs and Napier). Eddie and his siblings grew up on these stations, to later seek work in this developing industry.

Social disruptions in the Pastoral Industry forced the family to move to Derby and the nearby Aboriginal community of Mowanjum. Eddie worked on Mowanjum's new lease and cattle station of Pantijan, near Munja, before continuing to work on other pastoral stations. He and his family returned to Mowanjum where he became chairperson of their council for many years. He is a recognised leader, assisting the community as they engaged the challenges of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.



EDDIE BEAR AND ROBERT HOSKIN

EDDIE BEAR AND ROBERT HOSKIN

ISBN 978-0-85905-674-8



Readers, members and friends of Borderlands who liked Jim Coulter's and Reg Blow's explanations about Wand-jinism in the previous issue will certainly also appreciate Eddie Bear and Robert Hoskin's book which we helped publish and which is available from us for \$ 30.00; to purchase a copy: borders@borderlands.org.au call 03 9819 3239 or visit us at **2 Minona Street Hawthorn...** It's a really good read which introduces the reader to a story which is still too often ignored or forgotten in this country!

ECOLOGICALLY RESPONSIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**February 2018 9.30am—5pm**

In the context of the many ecological dilemmas besetting the earth, the explosive and seemingly uncontrollable growth of mega-cities must be one of the largest and most multi-dimensional. Against this background, community development - or the development of community—needs to run apace and alongside our attempts at developing our relationship with and understanding of nature and our broader ecology if we want to sustain ourselves and, in the process, save our earth. This workshop is facilitated by Jacques Boulet and will develop participants' capabilities to work with their (local) community and ecology in a regenerative way...

BOOKINGS VIA EVENTBRITE

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ecologically-responsive-communitydevelopment-intro-tickets-25217697813>

Fee \$345.94 Borderlands Member \$311.45**Concession \$288.46 Borderlands Member Conc. \$259.73****G.S.T. booking fees and lunch included.****Phone: (03) 9819 3239****E-mail: lesley@borderlands.org.au****Website: www.borderlands.org.au****Street: 2 Minona Street, Hawthorn 3124 or post: P.O. Box 3079 Auburn 3123**



ETWA is a small, Australian not-for-profit with a big heart for rural women in Timor-Leste.

From supporting development projects, training and product development in Timor-Leste to fundraising campaigns, events and community stalls in Australia, our committed volunteers work to implement innovative projects to make practical, positive change in women's lives in Timor-Leste.

To learn more or to get involved, visit www.etwa.org.au for more information

The Australian Living Peace Museum (ALPM)

ALPM is an online museum presenting Australian narratives of peace-making, non-violent social change and alternative forms of resistance to war and violence. The ALPM is committed to sound scholarship, a participatory framework and community-oriented perspectives. The Museum aims to foster a culture of peace reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of peace efforts made personally by individuals and by organisations past and present. It does so in accord with a range of local, national and international contexts relating to disarmament, human rights, ecology, reconciliation (including Indigenous responses to colonisation), education and the growth of international humanitarian law. The Australian Living Peace Museum is a volunteer-led, community based organisation. The Museum is a registered cooperative which meets on a monthly basis. **Membership of the cooperative is open to individuals and organisations that agree with its aims.** The rules of the cooperative including the aims and to make an application for membership can be found on <http://livingpeacemuseum.org.au/ALPM/index.php>



The Earthworker Cooperative is strongly progressing in their mission to establish renewable energy manufacturing through community-owned cooperatives

The project is a powerful, positive and unifying endeavour to:

- revitalise & empower local economies
- address climate change
- support local manufacturing jobs
- assist a 'just transition' from fossil fuel to clean renewable energy while producing high-quality sustainable products.

Being a member of Borderlands is great.

Not only do you get to support one of the most down-to-earth, ecologically healthy, sustainably conscious, social theory drenched, community focused, participatory / democratically in-tune and generally wonderful place, you also get **membership goodies**.

Membership goodies include:

- Reduced subscription rates to New Community Quarterly (the only Community Development Journal in Australia)
- Variable discounts on lectures and workshops
- Use of Borderlands Spaces for your events, meetings, chats*
- Broadened borrowing opportunities at the 14,000 volumes (and counting) Borderlands Library.

Now is the time to renew your membership – or become a brand-shiny-new member (or shareholder) of this wonderful independent network for holistic community activism, sustainability and action research.

We'd particularly love your membership if you have been receiving newsletters and correspondence from Borderlands for a while and haven't yet renewed your membership.

Please help keep Borderlands vibrant and active!

Membership is easy; just fill out the 'Membership, Shareholders and Subscribers Form' at the back of this newsletter and send / email it to us!



Borderlands Cooperative:

**Independent network for holistic
community activism, sustainability
and action research**

Be a part of a sustainable future!

By making a gift in your will to Borderlands Cooperative you are sustaining your values and ideals into the future.

Planned financial amounts can be donated for charitable purposes tax-free. And you do not need a great deal of wealth to make a difference. Every dollar helps to keep this non-profit organization alive and vibrant.

Your will is a very important document – it may be difficult to think of preparing it now – however, it protects your family and your assets for the future. A will gives you the opportunity to decide where your assets and possessions will go and how they are to be used. Preparing a legal will can potentially remove unnecessary stress, expense, and legal problems in future times.

However, we believe your will can do even more – it can also be your legacy, passing on not only physical assets, but also your values and ideals. A bequest is as simple as it is powerful; with a few words in your will, you can continue to be an advocate for community activism, healthy ecologically, sustainability and participatory democracy.

A bequest is a gift nominated in your will to one or more non-profit organizations. Your bequest can take any (or a combination) of the following forms:

- Cash
- A percentage of the overall value of your estate
- Retirement plan or life insurance beneficiary designation
- Securities
- Personal property (artwork, jewellery, etc.)

Due to the complexity of planned giving, we strongly suggest that you contact your tax advisor and/or legal advisor to begin the process. We encourage you to provide us with a copy of the relevant pages of your will, trust, or beneficiary designation form. All information will be kept in our secure files.

For membership, donations or any other purpose, please contact us:

Borderlands Cooperative

PO Box 3079

Auburn 3123

Tel: 03 9819 3239

or: 03 9819 3439

borders@borderlands.org.au

Please return your completed form to Borderlands Cooperative, PO Box 3079, AUBURN 3123

1. Your details

Name _____

Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Email address _____

Phone _____ Mobile _____

Skills I can contribute _____

Use this form to

- Become a member, shareholder or subscriber
- Renew your membership
- Made a donation

2. Membership/Shareholder. The primary activities of Borderlands are to provide consulting services, meeting spaces and to contribute to supporting ecological, social and cultural regeneration and sustainability through collaborative endeavors and critical inquiry.

All members of the Cooperative are required to be active members.

Active membership requires:

- For members payment of annual memberships fees **OR**
- For shareholders
 - ◊ Participate in at least one activity each financial year such as a meeting, or use the space or other resources of the cooperative **AND/OR**
 - ◊ Make a donation to further the activities of the cooperative

I wish to ☐ become a member or ☐ renew my membership by:

Payment of membership fee of \$ _____

Join

\$25 yearly subscription

\$15 concession

☐ Purchase of _____ share(s) in the Cooperative at \$100 each.

☐ Donation of _____

Total enclosed as cheque or money order _____

I would like to receive the newsletter by ☐ email ☐ post

(NEW MEMBERS ONLY) I agree to become an active member of the cooperative.

Signature _____ Date _____

☐ Tick here if you **don't** want to receive emails on events or issues.

3. Newsletter only I do not wish to become a member or shareholder but would like to receive the newsletter.

Free by email ☐ \$10 by post ☐

For office use only

_____ Receipt number

_____ Database updated

_____ Date filed

Initials _____



Small is Necessary: Shared Living on a Shared Planet Anitra Nelson

Does small mean less? Not necessarily. In an era of housing crises, environmental unsustainability and social fragmentation, the need for more sociable, affordable and sustainable housing is vital. The answer? Shared living - from joint households to land-sharing, cohousing and ecovillages. Using successful examples from a range of countries, Anitra Nelson shows how 'eco-collaborative housing' - resident-driven low impact living with shared facilities and activities - can address the great social, economic and sustainability challenges that householders and capitalist societies face today. Sharing living spaces and facilities results in householders having more amenities and opportunities for neighbourly interaction.

Small is Necessary places contemporary models of 'alternative' housing and living at centre stage arguing that they are outward-looking, culturally rich, with low ecological footprints and offer governance techniques for a more equitable and sustainable future.

Check out Anitra Nelson's new release here: <https://anitranelson.info/>

Here's a little poem written and sent in by one of our many readers,
thanks John!

'Christian Porter's Centrelink'

You're 26th in the queue
and we're ignoring you
we don't care what you think
for we are Centrelink.

If you're unemployed or poor
you can wait outside the door
if you drink or have a bet
we will get you yet
we'll raise a robo-debt
making sure that you regret
annoying us with your woes
piss-off with your sorrows
but do it nice and quiet
and always be polite
or you'll be in the shite.

Remember don't be late
never show your hate
it would make us quite irate
and you'll never wipe the slate.

If your life is in a mess
don't share your distress
cause we don't care
about your despair
best, you just disappear.

Christian Porter was minister for social insecurity and has now become attorney-general so he'll be able to do to the rest of us what he has spent his last couple of years doing to the unemployed. He was responsible for Centrelink when it started sending out robo-debt demands for repayments to clients without checking whether they had been over-paid or not.

The Intensive Journal Life Context workshop in Melbourne.

Led by Kate Scholl

Often we desire to live more authentically and to feel more connected to our 'soul' or 'spirit'. This workshop introduces the Intensive Journal® process, a practical tool to explore our inner stirrings and to move forward more grounded in our own life. No prior experience with journal writing is needed.

Cost: \$160, or \$140 for Eremos Members. **Early bird less \$20 if booking by 25 March.**

**Melbourne: Saturday & Sunday 28 – 29
April 2018**

9:30am-5pm Saturday; 9.30am-4.30pm Sunday

@ Sussex Neighbourhood House, 7 Prospect Street, Pascoe Vale.

Bookings essential **by 21st April.**

<https://www.trybooking.com/357478> for Melbourne workshop



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