

e-Deliverance

A Peaceful Death is Everybody's Right

March - April

Exit International

2009

Exit Laboratory Opens

Two years ago Exit launched a fund aimed at setting up a purpose-built laboratory that would enable better end of life options to be developed and tested. This month that project was completed.

The final stages in the commissioning of the air-conditioned laboratory took place with the installation of stainless steel laboratory benches and cupboards, and the connection of plumbing, power, and the necessary gases required for the specialised Gas Chromatography equipment.

ally shortly after that. Two other tasks that can now be undertaken involve the testing of the products manufactured by those working on the DIY 'Peaceful Pill' Project and the testing of the large quantities of old (stockpiled) drugs that many members of Exit (and the public) have hoarded, thinking they might just come in handy one day!



Members can contact Northern Analytics (on northernanalytics@ozemail.com.au) if they have questions about the laboratory or projects they wish to discuss. Results of the research conducted will be published in



The GC Machine



Northern Analytics Lab

The facility now trades as Northern Analytics Pty Ltd and already there are a number of important development projects in the pipeline.

The Peaceful Pill eHandbook and in *eDeliverance*. Exit would like to thank all those who gave so generously to this ambitious project.

Of greatest urgency is the completion of the final stage of the much-needed Exit Barbiturate Test Kit. Calibration of the chemicals involved

is essential so that those using the test will be certain that the drugs they test will give them a peaceful and reliable death. The Kit is scheduled for release in the UK in May and will be available internation-



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IQ2 Debate Brings Encouraging Victory for VE

In front of an audience of 1200, the IQ2 debate at Sydney's City Recital Hall on Tuesday 3 February saw the affirmative team win the night with a resounding victory.

In a debate titled 'Should we Legalise Euthanasia', a pro-choice team of Greens' Senator Bob Brown, former Chancellor of the Australian National University Professor Peter Baume AC and Exit Director Dr Philip Nitschke won the night with an audience vote of 75% in favour, 20% against and 5% undecided. And this in the face of the audience being stacked with a mass 70-seat booking from Right to Life NSW.



Professor Peter Baume with Dr Philip Nitschke at the pre-debate briefing at City Recital Hall Sydney

The night began in a civilised manner with Philip opening proceedings, speaking about the *Rights of the Terminally Ill (ROTI) Act*; in particular his experience of the law in the Northern Territory along with its benefits and pitfalls. Philip was followed by a recent speaker at the National Colloquium for Catholic Bioethicists, palliative care GP Maria Cigolini, who argued that most people who consider euthanasia are depressed. She outlined how any move to legalise VE would lead to elder abuse.

Dr Cigolini was followed by Senator Brown, who presented real-life patient case studies of primary care physician, Dr David Leaf (who later made a statement from the audience in support of the affirmative team), to argue why

a law on euthanasia is the only civilised way forward.

The fourth speaker was former Howard Government Health Minister, Tony Abbott, who attempted to disentangle his view on voluntary euthanasia from his Catholic faith. Mr Abbott asked the affirmative

team to give him the respect to believe that when he voted in favour of the Kevin Andrews Bill in 1996 (to overturn the NT's legislation), he did so because of his personal convictions, not because he was a puppet of the Catholic Church.

Professor Peter Baume AC was the fifth speaker and it was his quip that 'dogs and horses have it better than humans' that became the tag-line of the evening and which formed the basis of his opinion article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* the following day.

The final speaker was the Jesuit priest, Frank Brennan who was reported in the media as providing a 'conciliatory tone.'



St James Ethics Centre Executive Director & Chair of the Debate - Dr Simon Longstaff



Professor Peter Baume, Senator Bob Brown, Dr Philip Nitschke (left to right)

iQ2 & a Meddling Priest Named Frank

However, this priest is more meddlesome than the media gives him credit, saving his last punches for his 2-minute reply to audience statements (when no correction was possible).

In closing, Father Brennan focused on the Graeme Wylie trial, arguing that the danger of euthanasia is that children are denied the opportunity to say 'goodbye' to their parents. He went on to allege that the NT's *ROTI Act* had been a racist law in that it had alienated the Aboriginal communities of the nation.

What Frank Brennan omitted to mention, of course, was the fact that the ROTI law was passed by one vote; that of the sole Aboriginal MP - the Member for Arnhem - Mr Wes Lanhupuy, who stated: 'I believe a person should have the right to be able to determine what they want if they are of sane mind.'

While pro-lifers like Abbott wear their faith on their sleeve, the *modus operandi* of Frank Brennan is far more cunning. That Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has recently appointed Father Brennan to chair the National Human Rights Consultation Committee is of particular concern given Brennan's anti-abortion, anti-

Have You Returned your Member Survey?

Exit asks that all members who have not yet completed and returned their **Member Survey** to please do so without delay.

This survey constitutes an important stock-take on the way Exit operates. We would, therefore, like to hear from as many members as possible in regards to what they like and love about the way Exit operates.

If you have misplaced your survey and need an additional copy, please call Lindy Boyd at the Melbourne Exit office on 03 9850 8192.

We look forward to publishing results in the coming months. To date, we have around 800 replies, so help us hit the 1000 mark and please respond today!

stem cell research and anti-VE positions. As background, *The Australian* newspaper reported that in 1996 Brennan 'attacked a US-style constitutional bill of rights ... He argued that giving judges the final say in weighty moral issues such as abortion and gay rights encouraged frivolous behaviour among politicians, who could safely issue extravagant promises knowing they would be struck down by the courts.'

From Exit's point of view, one of the main benefits of a constitutionally-enshrined Bill of Rights would be the preservation of a person's right to free speech. Remember, while the latest news on the Government's mandatory Internet filtering suggests that the initiative is in jeopardy, we are not safe yet. Just how Exit International would function if our websites were to be blocked no one knows. But the picture in Australia is far from rosy with the likes of Frank Brennan at the helm.

If you missed the debate, you can access the podcast on the ABC's website. <<http://www.abc.net.au/tv/fora/stories/2009/02/04/2481826.htm>>

Introducing Henny Penny

As many of you will know, in 2008 Philip and Fiona lost both their dogs to illness and old age. This year, Exit is pleased to announce the arrival of 'Henny Penny' from Adelaide. She is a cross between a Jack Russell and a Schipperke (Belgian barge dog).

As such, she is not expected to grow at all large, making her a portable addition to the Exit travelling lifestyle.

Look out for her at Exit meetings across the country starting this month.



Public Meetings & ExiTutorials Schedule 2009

(NB: ExiTutorials were formerly known as 'information workshops')

March

Melbourne - Sat 21 March: 1pm, Toorak Library
Sydney - Sat 28 March: 10am, Dougherty Centre

May

WEBINAR - Mon 4 May: 10am GMT
Bournemouth UK - Tues 5 May: 10am, Hamilton Hall
Eastbourne - Wed 6 May: 1pm, Brighthelm Church
Stroud - Fri 8 May: 10am, The Space, Lansdown
Glasgow - Sat 9 May: 1pm, Glasg. Unitarian Church
WEBINAR - Tues 12 May: 7pm PDT/ USA WCoast
Brisbane - Sat 23 May: 1pm, Toowong Snr Citizens
Rockhampton - Tues 26 May: 10am, Walter Reid Cultural Ctr
Mackay - Thurs 28 May: 1pm, Venue: TBC
Townsville - Sat 30 May: 1pm, Annandale Community Centre

June

Cairns - Mon 1 June: 10am, Cairns City Library
Bundaberg - Thurs 4 June: 10am, Bundaberg Civic Centre
Gosford - Wed 10 June: 1pm, Kincumber & District Neighbourhood Centre
Newcastle - Sat 13 June: 1pm, Trades Hall
Bowral - Tuesday 16 June: 1pm, Bowral Mem Hall
Canberra - Fri 19 June: 1pm, Griffin Centre
Gold Coast - Tues 23 June: 10am, Civic Centre, Tweed Heads
Hervey Bay - Thurs 25 June: 1pm, Venue: TBC
Sunshine Coast - Sat 27 June: 1pm, Venue: TBC
Bribie Island - Mon 29 June: 10am, Venue: TBC

July

Lismore - Wed 1 July: 1pm, Lismore Sports Club
Coffs Harbour - Friday 3 July: 1pm, Cavanbah Hall
Katoomba - Monday 20 July: 1pm, Masonic Lodge
Auckland - Wed 22 July: 9am, Ferndale House
Wellington - Fri 24 July: 9am, St John's in City
Nelson - Sat 25 July: 1pm, Melrose House
Dunedin - Wed 29 July: 1pm, Cargills Hotel

Bookings

Members of Exit will be mailed a booking form prior to the event in your area. For inquiries please call Lindy (Australia) on +61 (0)3-9850-8192 or David (UK) on 075-3140-6804. Friends of members are welcome. **ExiTutorials** are free to members (\$55 others incl GST). Attendance at ExiTutorials is restricted to the over 50s and people who are seriously ill. Details about **Webinars** will be available at: www.peacefulpill.com from early April.

Exitutorials

Public Meetings & Exitutorials scheduled for August - December 2009 include:

Aug - September: Darwin, Armidale, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga, Bega, Nowra, Wollongong
October: Melbourne, Rosebud, Bairnsdale, Warragul, Bendigo, Ballarat, Portland
November: NY, LA, Hobart, Launceston, Devonport
December: Perth, Bunbury, Sydney, Canberra, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Adelaide, Victor Harbour

New Exit Videos on *YouTube.com*

'*PPeH Book Trailer*' & '*On the Road with Exit 09*'

As foreshadowed in January, Exit is pleased to announce that two new Exit videos are now available for viewing on the Exit homepage.

The first video is what is called a 'book trailer' (much like a film trailer) and profiles the *Peaceful Pill eHandbook*. The video's aim is to encapsulate the spirit of this video book in a 60 second grab.

The second video produced this month is titled *On the Road with Exit 09*.

This film documents the two-week Workshop road trip of the East coast of Australia that was undertaken by Philip in November 2008. *On the Road*

with Exit invites members to come behind the scenes at Exit & hear Philip's reflections on workshops in the face of unexpected obstacles & challenges.

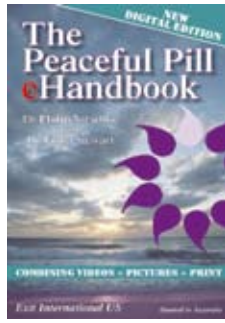
Both videos can be viewed on the Exit homepage at www.exitinternational.net



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qWIEKZLPRuk>

Peaceful Pill eHandbook Gets Nembutal Update

In February, Exit International US Ltd released an important new update to the video (online) edition of the *Peaceful Pill eHandbook*. Topics include:



- Nembutal in Tijuana, Nuevo Progreso, Cancun, Mexico City & alternatives.

- Nembutal in Thailand & China.

- Nembutal over the Internet?


The video *Peaceful Pill eHandbook* is available for immediate download from www.peacefulpill.com.

Subscribers to the video edition receive 24 months of updates included in the purchase price of US\$75. (Note - Those purchasing the book in Australia may be in breach of the *Suicide Related Material Offences Act*).

Exit members who already have a copy of the initial print edition of *The Peaceful Pill Handbook* (the import of this book is a possible breach of the Australian *Customs Act*) are entitled to an AUD\$25 cash-back on purchasing the video edition. Members should mail proof of purchase to the Exit office in Darwin and a cheque will be sent to you (overseas purchasers will receive a refund using Paypal).

* Exit Mail *

The following email was received by Exit on 6 March 2009.

“Hello,
Just wanted to share my experience contacting Gerardo over the internet [as contained in the *PPeH*]. Transaction was very smooth and discreet. He’s very helpful and accomodating, prompt in replying [to] emails and questions, and  always reassuring and very professional. When my package arrived, I noticed it was wrapped very securely to prevent the bottle from breakage. He even informed the courier to personally give me a call when he reached my residence so as not to miss the delivery. Cheers KJ”

Exitorial

The characteristic that defines Exit & sets the organisation apart from other VE groups is our unashamed endorsement of technology as a way to deal with the pressing question of end of life choices. While we acknowledge the role of political strategies, the changing face of technology is providing new answers all the time. It was Exit who first coined the term ‘Peaceful Pill’ to reflect this & it was Exit who asked the rhetorical question - who would care whether end of life legislation were introduced if they had their own Peaceful Pill in the cupboard?

Several ventures clearly demonstrate Exit’s unique approach. Firstly, Exit has now opened our own **laboratory**. It is more than two years since an appeal was launched, asking Exit members to support this ambitious endeavour. Delays and setbacks are the norm for **Research & Development** & we now look forward to getting the Lab operational & sharing its successes (& set-backs) with the Exit community.

Another initiative to be launched in 2009 is the introduction of Internet **Webinars**. These online seminars are designed so that anyone in the world can attend our **flagship ExiTutorial** program & participate in real time Q&A. Details will be posted at: www.peacefulpill.com in April. As with face-to-face meetings, Webinar attendance is restricted to the over 50s & seriously ill & disclaimers will still need to be completed. I look forward to using this new smart technology to overcome the tyranny of distance.

A third technological initiative pioneered by Exit is the use of online publishing to produce a book that can keep up with change. Exit US Ltd has now published the first of a number of regular **updates** to the **Peaceful Pill eHandbook**, containing a range of new information about the availability of Nembutal; particularly a new mailorder source (see the testimonial *left*). While Exit cannot condone this type of illegal activity, the service exists & it would seem mischievous to withhold this information.

To meet the immediate needs of Exit members, travel is still essential & I’d like to thank all members who came forward with offers of **motorhomes for sale** (as advertised in the February online edition of *Deliverance*). While the price-tag of \$200,000 is out of our reach, I am pleased to say we have come to an arrangement with a generous member who is prepared to lease their ‘Coaster’ to Exit on a needs basis for a very reasonable fee.

In May I return to the **UK** (via Singapore) to launch 3 new Exit initiatives. Avoiding restrictive Australian laws, we will launch the Webinar program, the new ExiTutorials, & the Exit Barbiturate Test Kit. Thanks to Qantas Frequent Flyer points, the trip should be cost-neutral for the organisation; something I am acutely aware of in this time of global recession.

Philip Nischke

‘Clean Feed’ Update

Is Net Censorship Dead?

While most people were enjoying their summer break, the Australian Government was busy with its 6-week trial of a mandatory Net filtering system. If successful, the ‘Clean Feed’ initiative (which began trials on 11 February with six Internet Service Providers - Primus, Tech 2U, Webshield, OMNIconnect, Netforce and Highway 1) will see adult Australians’ access to the Internet censored, as the Government decides what we will and won’t be able to access.

Beginning with a secret blacklist of 1370 websites and another 10,000 sites that have been deemed to contain ‘unwanted’ content, the ‘Clean Feed’ initiative places

Australia on par with countries such as China, Nth Korea and Saudi Arabia where government censorship is concerned.

With euthanasia one of the topics in the spotlight, Exit Director, Dr Philip Nitschke, said he was hugely relieved when the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported on Friday 28 February that the initiative’s future was now in doubt.

In the online February edition of *eDeliverance* Exit outlined how a ‘Clean Feed’ would spell disaster for the organisation’s ability to communicate with members. Not only would it likely see our main website blocked, but it would also potentially

*** Sydney Event * Talking Heads at Toxteth**

On Thursday 26 March, everyone is invited to a ‘politics in the pub’ night with Mr Kep Enderby QC and Exit Director Philip Nitschke in the upstairs function room at the Toxteth Hotel, 345 Glebe Point Road, Glebe (cnr Ferry Road). Doors open at 6 for a 6.30pm start.

There are Senior & Pensioner discounts available at the bar but not for sessions. There is, however, a ‘buy one get one free’ meal deal with reservations essential. The cost of the evening is: \$10. Enquiries to convenors Kate Barton or Helen Randerson on 02-9518-5560 or katebarton3@optusnet.com.au

block the website of Exit US (peacefulpill.com) preventing Australians from accessing the *Peaceful Pill Handbook* and *eHandbook* online.

Who knows what would happen to members’ access to the online bookstore www.Amazon.com where the *Handbook* sells freely, or to video websites such as www.YouTube.com where Exit profiles an increasing number of videos on VE-related activities.

In defence of his plans, Senator Stephen Conroy - Federal Minister for Communications - told the

Herald that there was ‘a very strong case’ for blocking content that



had been ‘refused classification’ by the Australian Film and Literature Classification board [content such as *The Peaceful Pill Handbook*]. The Senator went on to describe such content as ‘revolting and abhorrent’ and ‘offend[ing] against the standards of morality’.

According to the *SMH*, the Clean Feed has been placed in sudden jeopardy by the actions of two South Australian Senators. Firstly, Nick Minchin (Lib) is reported to have obtained an independent legal opinion confirming that the policy would require legislation of some kind. Secondly, the anti-pokies and anti-online gambling Senator, Nick Xenophon, is no longer supportive of the plan, saying ‘the more evidence that’s come out, the more questions there are on this.’

However, with Senator Conroy refusing to release the reigns, Exit is not safe yet. If you feel passionately about Government censorship, you are invited to join the Exit delegation to Senator Stephen Conroy. Call the Melbourne Exit office to register your interest (see page 7 for details).

Contact Us

Exit International

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contact@exitinternational.net**

Donate to Exit

**Exit relies on donations to fund its meetings/
workshops, private visits and R&D programs
Please give generously.**

Join an Exit Delegation

Get to Work for Legislative Change

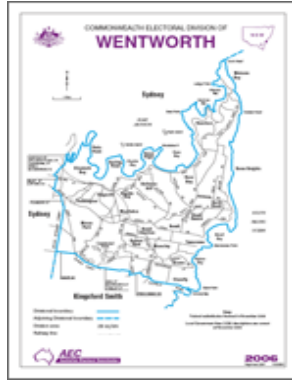
In 2009, Exit International will be coordinating an ambitious program of member delegations to sitting Members of Parliament at State and Federal levels and in NZ. All too often our politicians are pressured by professional lobby groups whose various agendas drown out the voices of the ordinary citizen. This is especially true with so-called moral issues such as voluntary euthanasia. To ensure your voice is heard, you need to get involved.

The first two Ministers to be approached are Victorian Senator Stephen Conroy and the Leader of the Opposition The Hon. Malcolm Turnbull.

As highlighted on page 6 of this newsletter, Senator Conroy is the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. He is also, therefore, the Minister driving the mandatory Net filtering initiative.

Unfortunately, Senator Conroy is no friend of VE. Back in 1996, he was one of 12 pro-life Senators (the others included: Brian Harradine, Eric Abetz,

Chris Ellison, and Bill Heffernan to argue that ‘the general moral, philosophical, ethical and social arguments about euthanasia indicate that legalising its practice constitutes ‘dangerous and unwise public policy.’” Senator Conroy voted for the Kevin Andrews Bill which overturned the *ROTI Act*.



If you are a computer user, a defender of free speech and live in Victoria we invite you to come along.

The second politician to be approached in 2009 will be Mr Malcolm Turnbull. Following the lead of the late Caren Jenning who for many years lived in the seat of Wentworth and who discussed VE with Mr Turnbull while he was still on the backbench, Exit

invites all registered voters in Wentworth to form a delegation to take the Exit message of ‘choice and dignity at the end of life’ to Mr Turnbull.

To register your interest or to coordinate a delegation to your local politician please call the Melbourne Exit office on 03 9850 8192.

Chapter Meeting Dates (March - May)

ADELAIDE: Friday 15 May. Contact Julia on 8390-1822 or Janine on 8431-1668.

AUCKLAND: Tuesday 7 April at 10am: Mt Albert Bridge Club Rooms, 751 New North Rd, Mt Albert. Contact Phillipa (evenings 817-6646).

BRISBANE: Saturday 30 May at 10am: Contact Angelika on 0431-275-840.

CAIRNS: Thursday 2 April. Contact John on 0427-486-402.

CENTRAL COAST: Saturday 30 May at 10am: Kincumber Community Ctr. Contact Bettina on 4369-4008.

FORSTER: Thursday 26 March at 1pm: Small Meeting Room, Tuncurry Bowls Club. Contact Lesley on 6554-5942.

DORRIGO: Tuesday 31 March at 3pm: CWA Rooms. Contact Al on 6657-2355.

DUNEDIN: Sunday, 17 May at 2pm: 1st floor, Public Library, Dunedin. Contact Paula on 471-9955.

MELBOURNE: Tuesday 26 May at 9.30am: Hawthorn Library. Contact Rob on 0423-305-788.

NEWCASTLE: Monday 6 April at 10.30am: Trades Hall. Contact Vincent on 4945-1916.

PERTH: Monday 13 April (Easter Monday) at 1pm: Wembley Community Centre, 40 Alexander St, Wembly. Contact Carol on 0429-039-167.

TOWNSVILLE: Wednesday 15 April at 10am. Contact Syd or Eric on 4729-0275.

WELLINGTON: Pot Luck Lunch at Suzie’s home, Sunday 29 March 2009 at 12 noon. A social gathering, all friends/ family welcome. Contact Suzy on 566-4893 for details.



Exit Store

WBC		R	
WBC-G		KMS	
B		DVD	
C		OTHER	

Office Use Only

I want to join/ rejoin/ donate to Exit International

(The average donation to Exit is A\$100-150 - includes a membership fee of \$55 - incl GST)

*** The Peaceful Pill eHandbook (online video edition)**

- available at www.peacefulpill.com - US\$75 (includes 24 months of updates)



*** The Peaceful Pill Handbook (print edition) (banned in Australia)**

- available from Exit International US Ltd, PO Box 300396, Waterford MI 48330 USA

- US\$40 (includes postage worldwide) or from www.peacefulpill.com

(Use this form to mail order the PPH. Credit Card payments ONLY)

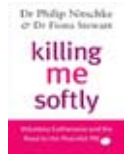
*** Killing Me Softly VE & the Road to the Peaceful Pill**

(by Drs Philip Nitschke & Fiona Stewart)

(International orders, please order online at exitinternational.net)

A\$44.30

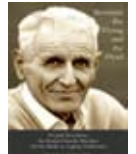
(includes postage within Australia)



*** Between the Dying & the Dead - Dr Jack Kevorkian, the Assisted Suicide Machine & the Battle to Legalise Euthanasia** (by Neal Nicol & Harry Wylie)

A\$50

(includes postage worldwide)



*** Mademoiselle & the Doctor DVD**

(pal & NTSC formats)

A\$38.50

(includes postage worldwide)



Contact Details

First Name(s).....

Last Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

eMail

Age.....

Telephone.....

Giving Options

I am giving \$

on (today's date).....

Visa

Mastercard

Cheque

AUD\$ ONLY

Credit Card No.....

Name on Card.....

Signature.....

Expiry Date...../.....

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