

e-Deliverance

A PEACEFUL DEATH IS EVERYBODY'S RIGHT

Dec 15 - Feb 2016

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DICING WITH DR DEATH MELBOURNE INT COMEDY FESTIVAL 2016

After rave reviews at the Edinburgh Fringe 2015, Dr Philip Nitschke is bringing his show 'Dicing with Dr Death' to the Melbourne International Comedy Festival on 3 April 2016 & all Exit Members are invited.

In a welcome change of direction after 4-years of being persecuted by the Medical Board of Australia, Philip is excited to perform his all-Australian, one-man spoken word comedy show as part of the famous **Melbourne International Comedy Festival**.

For its Australian premiere, the show has a new title 'Practicing without a license'. This is, of course, a play on words given the outcome of his legal battle with the Medical Board. Philip is no longer a registered medical practitioner. But this doesn't matter, as it's been years since he worked as a paid doctor. Ever since Exit was created in early 1997, it is Exit and its associated focus on end of life choices, that have taken Philip away from medicine.

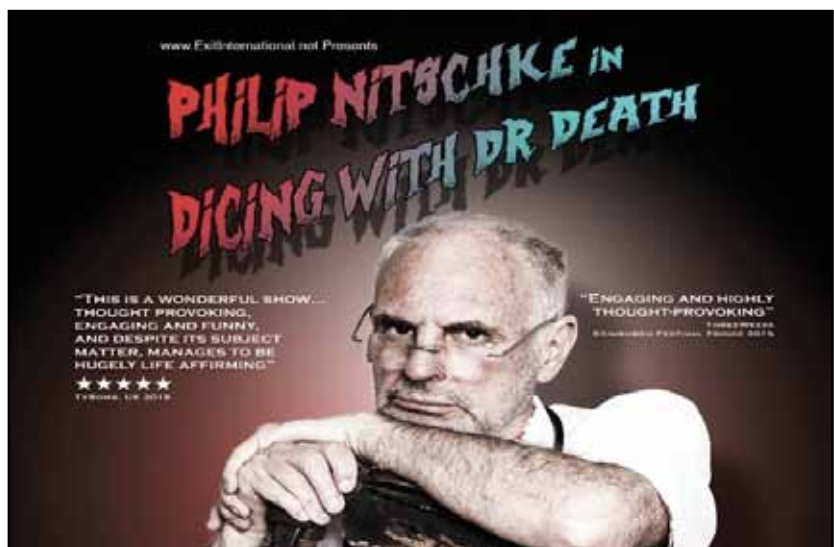
When *Dicing with Dr Death* had its world premiere at EdFringe

2015 the first review was by *The Telegraph* which awarded it one star and called the show 'witlessly infantile'. This review was followed days later by a 5 star review from *TV Bomb*, one of the most respected review sites of the Edinburgh Festival which found the show intriguing and thought-provoking ... hugely life affirming'. This acclaim was followed by a 4-star review by *Three Weeks Edinburgh*, another renowned review site which expressed similar sentiments.

According to Philip, this all

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Dicing with Dr Death - Australian Premiere @ Melbourne International Comedy Festival

DICING WITH DR DEATH CONT

points to the anti-VE stance of *The Telegraph*; a newspaper long known for its hostility to assisted suicide. That the review was submitted by the paper's dance critic says it all.

Philip will again be joined on stage by his 'collaborator' Tom Curran who is Exit's long-time coordinator of European activities. Exit is bringing Tom to Australia for the premiere. The show will again be directed by well-known UK comic, Kevin Shepherd, who is also coming out to Melbourne especially for the Comedy Festival.

'*Dicing with Dr Death*' will run for an hour. The venue is Melbourne's **Athenaeum Theatre** at 188 Collins St. The Athenaeum is one of the oldest institutions in Melbourne. Since 2003 the Theatre has been the home of the Melbourne Opera. The stage is big and the pressure is on! Now he just needs an audience. It was welcome news that tickets are selling fast.

SHOW DETAILS

When: 4pm, Sunday 3 April 2016

Tickets: Ticketek Call Centre 132 849

Ticketek Website: <http://bit.ly/1JBmscA>

Price: \$25 adult, \$19 concession.

* Please note that all over 90s (with ID) are free!



Exit will be hosting a members-only after party after the show. Champagne and finger food will be served.

Details of the after-party will be announced in the March edition of *Deliverance*. Stay tuned.

The **YouTube trailer** of the show can be seen at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVEsT6pPs4o>

Philip has recently begun **tweeting** about the show.



@PHILIPNITSCHKE

Remember - if you don't get Twitter on your smart phone, you can still stay abreast of Exit's daily posts by visiting the Exit website at www.exitinternational.net where you will find Philp's Twitter Feed posted in real time. This feed is also then relayed to Philip's Facebook page.



PEACEFUL PILL E-HANDBOOK

As the online *Peaceful Pill eHandbook* enters its ninth year of publication, there are exciting updates afoot. The January update features important news about **Nitrogen** and a new step-by-step guide on how to make your own **Hypoxia Bag**. Also in the **January 2016 Update** will be a special on the Mexican border town of **Mexicali** where Nembutal is freely available as an over-the-counter purchase.

www.peacefulpill.com

NITSCHKE BURNS MEDICAL LICENSE

For those who may have missed it in the media, in late November, Philip returned to Australia & burned his medical license. This voluntary act of defiance was forced upon him. The restrictions placed on Philip by the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) were both wide-ranging and far-reaching.

The restrictions would have prevented Philip from discussing voluntary euthanasia with anyone anywhere in the world. In essence, the MBA was sending the message that no doctor can be involved in assisted suicide, even to the extent of advocating for its legalisation. The MBA wanted to remove the medical profession from having any role with patients and their end of life choices.

This type of head-in-the-sand approach is totally inconsistent with Philip's life's work. The abandonment of his medical registration was the only logical thing to do.

The result of Philip's decision to opt out of medicine is that Exit is now gearing up for its biggest year yet. Indeed, over 1000 people attended Exit's recent national workshop series. This figure is set to increase in 2016.



Dr Philip Nitschke burns his medical registration at a press conference in Darwin on 27 November 2015

The highlight of the year will be Exit's 20 Year celebration of Bob Dent Day with its Rational Suicide Conference which will be held 22-23 September at the State Library of Victoria.

FACT SHEET ON PHILIP'S MEDICAL REGISTRATION

Myth: Philip has been deregistered by the Medical Board of Australia

Fact: In July 2014, the MBA illegally suspended Philip's medical registration. The Supreme Court later overturned this unlawful decision and immediately reinstated Philip's registration

Myth: Philip did not need to burn his medical registration in order to continue running Exit

Fact: The conditions imposed on Philip in his final round of mediation with the Medical Board expressly

prohibited Philip from talking about voluntary euthanasia with any member of the public, including Exit Members. This restriction was a major breach of the right to free speech and a condition Philip would not accept. While he did not need to actually 'burn' his medical registration, he did need to choose between medicine and Exit. Philip chose Exit.

Myth: Philip can no longer be called 'doctor'

Fact: As Philip has both a PhD and a medical degree, he is free to be called 'doctor'. What Philip cannot do is call himself a 'registered medical practitioner'.

EXIT WORKSHOP WRAP: 2015

After finally freeing himself from the ball and chain of his so-called profession, it was full steam ahead with Exit's final series of workshops for 2015.

While it was originally intended that Dr Fiona Stewart would provide the workshops - given the restrictions that had been placed upon Dr Nitschke - this proved not to be necessary thanks to the results of the Exit member survey which confirmed Philip's decision to abandon medicine once and for all.

The workshops were, predicatably, very well attended. There are too many people to thank here. We do want to say that Exit remains extraordinarily dependent upon, and grateful to, our Chapter Coordinators in all parts of Australia. We also want to formally acknowledge the many volunteers who assist our Co-ordinators; not simply in providing and serving morning tea but in mailouts to members, the booking of rooms, the set up and packing up of rooms on the day, the paperwork, the audio visual equipment, the welcoming of fellow members and so the list goes. The chores are endless as is the work.

Exit thanks all these people who make the organisation the success that it is today. Exit remains Australia's largest and only national member organisation that educates and advocates on the issue of voluntary euthanasia, assisted suicide and end of life choices. Well done us!



At the Melbourne Workshop on 13 December, we ran clean out of chairs. Luckily we had enough afternoon tea to go around.



Sydney-siders watch with interest a drug testing session using banking soda



Carol O'Neil with 101-year old Professor David Goodall at Exit's Perth workshop. Not only is David Australia's oldest working scientist, he is also one of Exit's most senior members. More about David is at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_W._Goodall



In Perth the audience was 200+. The crowd was managed exceptionally well by WA Chapter Coordinator Carol O'Neil

GOOD BYE MOTHER

As many of you may be aware, my 95-year old mother, Gwen Nitschke, died shortly after Christmas. For the past six years she had been a resident of a nursing home in Adelaide. The move into the home came as a result of a fall in her unit. And, as is often the way, her confidence was dented and the move into institutional care was inevitable.



While Gwen had many happy moments in the home, her overriding feeling was that she did not want to be there. As she would often tell the staff, 'I wish I was dead'. Gwen was not depressed, nor was she sick. She was simply old. Her independence had gone, her mobility was going too. Her dignity was in tatters.

I often wish I could have given Gwen a bottle of Nembutal. I doubt she would have taken it, but she might have. What was certain is that it would have given her huge peace of mind. Gwen wanted choice. She wanted to be in control. She wanted to be in a position to exit if she wanted to. Or to live on if she chose. The law made sure that Gwen had no choices at all.

The following is my letter to my mother, composed for her funeral.

This time it's for real, not one of the many false goodbyes of recent times, this time it is my final goodbye. Goodbye mother.

And it has to be goodbye from a distance, remote, I'm here in Switzerland, you're in Adelaide. I can't be there, but I suspect you won't hold that against me. As you said, not once but the 1000 times of the saying, I don't want any fuss made at my funeral. Well, no fuss, and I won't take up too much of your time.

Looking back, over the 68 years I've known you, I have to say, I will miss you, miss you a lot. You did a pretty good job, I think, out

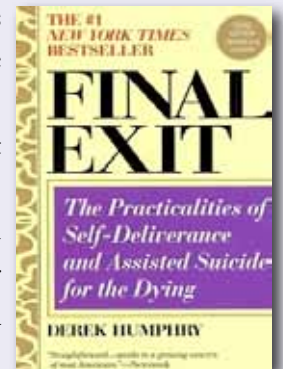
of making the best of what, on so many occasions was a difficult life. And in the process of making the best, gave me the best help, the best start I could have ever wanted, far better than I probably deserved.

So the only real message is that, to thank you, to thank you for that, for giving me all that I ever needed to get a start. And I will never forget you.

From Philip, your youngest son.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FINAL EXIT

This year it will be 25 years since Derek Humphry first published his best-selling book, *Final Exit: The Practicalities of Self-Deliverance and Assisted Suicide for the Dying*. What makes Derek's book so important is that it was the first of its kind. Derek paved the way for those of us who came later. In 1991 *Final Exit* was on the *New York Times* best-seller list for an impressive 18 weeks. Since its publication, *Final Exit* has been translated into 12 languages. The book remains banned only in France. Since its first edition in 2006, the print *Peaceful Pill Handbook* and in 2008 *The Peaceful Pill eHandbook* have both been dedicated to Derek Humphry 'For Derek Humphry, for his courage and compassion in showing the way'.



Happy Birthday Final Exit! Congratulations Derek!

PRACTICING WITHOUT A LICENSE

It's a great feeling to be free at last of the shackles of the Australian Medical Board. I am now free to do what really interests me; namely Exit (over 20 workshops are planned for 2016) and bringing my comedy show 'Dicing with Dr Death aka Practicing without a License' to the Melbourne International Comedy Festival 2016. I will be performing for one night only at 4pm on Sunday 3 April at Melbourne's Athenaeum Theatre.

Of course, I invite all Exit members to come along. Bring friends and family. Even if they don't support Exit I'm sure they will still get a laugh, not to mention a new lease on life.

Philip Nitschke

STAFF CHANGES AT EXIT

GOOD BYE CHELSEY BARTON (FOR 4 MONTHS) WELCOME BACK AMANDA MCCLURE

Firstly, Chelsey Barton is off on maternity leave. Chels will be on leave for four months starting January. Stepping into her shoes with reception will be Amanda McClure. We are delighted to have Amanda rejoin Exit. Amanda has worked with Philip (on and off) for the past 20 years. A working relationship built on trust and respect on both sides. Welcome back Amanda.

GOOD BYE & THANKS DR JOHANNES KLABBERS

Secondly, the contract of Dr Johannes Klabbbers as National Coordinator has come to its natural conclusion. Johannes has been a tremendous asset to Exit, holding the fort through 2015 while Philip established his comedy career. Johannes' series of Exit Vivas were widely appreciated by members all over the country.

In 2016, Johannes says he is looking forward to having his first book published. Titled 'I am Here' the book stems from his work as a secular pastoral worker with cancer patients. Johannes also hopes to extend his work as a post-humanist therapist.

Exit thanks Johannes for his contribution both as a volunteer and staff member. As long as he remains in Melbourne, Members should expect to continue to see Johannes at meetings and the coffee & chat groups; a network that he was instrumental in establishing throughout the state of Victoria.



Dr Johannes Klabbbers with Philip Nitschke in the Netherlands in November 2015

WELCOME DR JILL MILNER

Starting late January 2016, Exit will welcome Dr Jill Milner. Jill will take up the role of 'Projects Officer'. We have many things on the boil so Jill will need to hit the ground running. We are sure she can do it!



Jill's professional background is broad, having worked extensively in drug development through both university-based clinical research and clinical trials management in the pharmaceutical industry and private enterprise.

Jill is a graduate of both the University of Canberra (Bachelor of Applied Science in Chemistry) and MIT in the USA, where she gained a PhD in neuroscience. Jill is 68, which makes her a contemporary of Philip's.

Jill says she has a passionate interest in civil liberties, women's rights, animal rights, self determination and, naturally, the voluntary euthanasia movement. She enjoys reading, baroque music, tennis, travel, wildlife and animals; especially dogs.

A dual Australian - Swiss national, Jill is shortly to return to Australia permanently from Europe. Thereafter, she will be based in Exit's Adelaide office. We look forward to an exciting and rewarding relationship with Jill and welcome her warmly to Exit.

JAY FRANKLIN

In 2016, Jay Franklin will continue to assist Exit in his role as Social Media Manager. Jay runs a very active Facebook page on Exit's behalf and has a growing Twitter following in his own right.

Jay is a great asset to Exit. Jay is proof that it takes a younger person such as him to understand much of what goes on online. Contact Jay on: jay@exitinternational.net

FUTURE OF EXIT SURVEY RESULTS: WHAT MEMBERS SAID

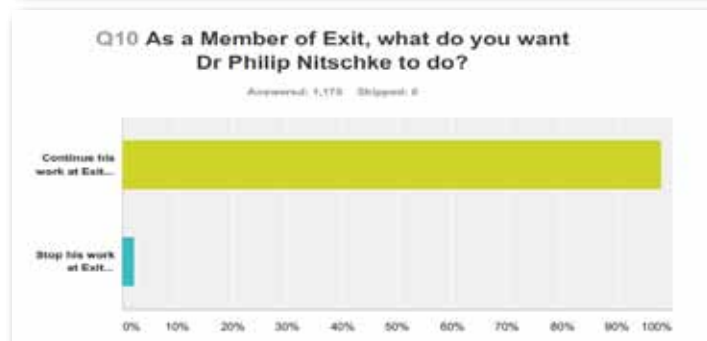
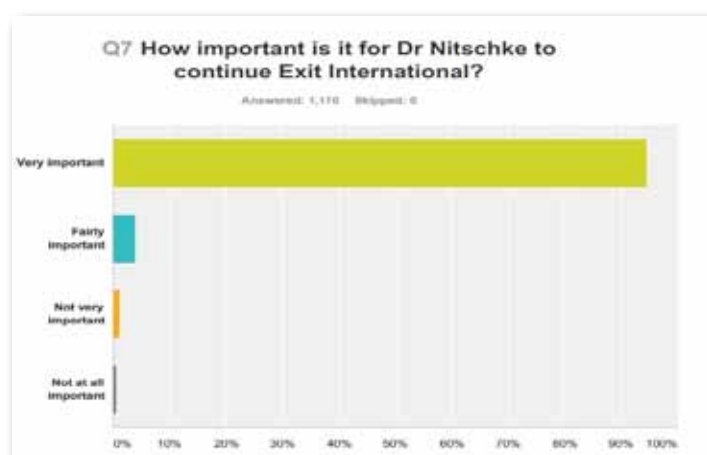
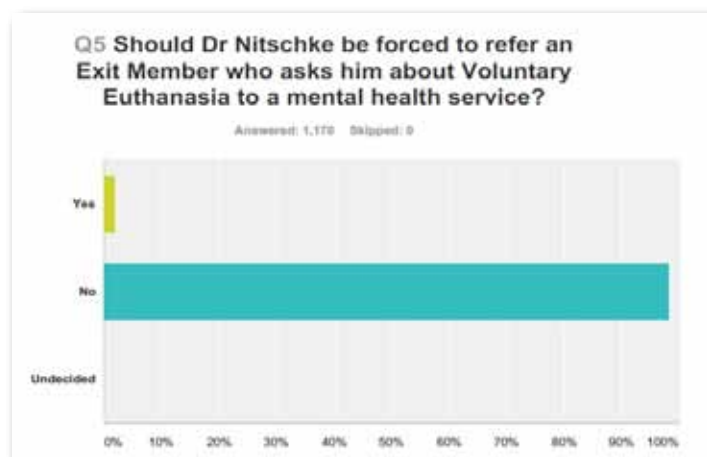
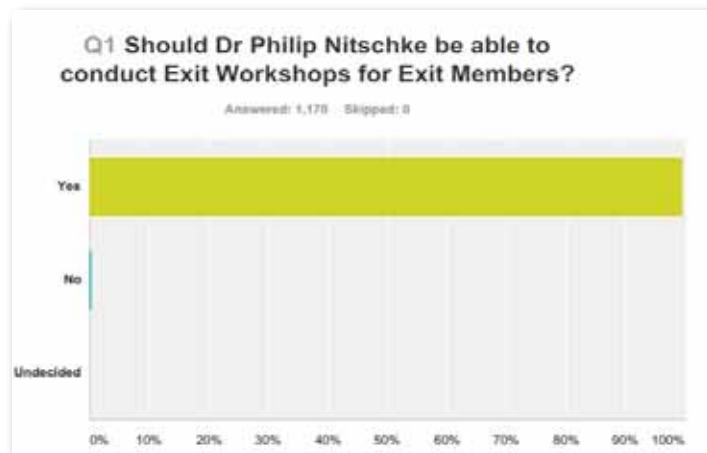
In late October, Exit undertook an important attitudinal survey of its online membership. The results were instrumental in helping determine the future of Exit. The survey was completed by over 1200 Exit members with a further 86 members doing the survey offline. Unfortunately, the offline responses were not able to be used in the final results due to time constraints. Over half of all members who responded also volunteered to provide public comment to the media should this be needed. Philip is extremely grateful for this huge show of support. Thank you.

The results of the survey were unambiguous. Indeed they were emphatic. The vast majority (97.86%) of members wanted Philip to **continue Exit International**. While Philip had his own ideas about whether to choose medicine or Exit, this strong show of support only confirmed what he was thinking. Forget his medical registration and continue Exit.

Of the more specific questions that were asked - questions that flowed from the restrictions placed on Philip by the Medical Board of Australia (MBA) - 99.49% of members thought that Philip should be able to **conduct Exit Workshops** for members. The provision of workshops was something that the MBA expressly prohibited Philip from doing.

Another condition placed on Philip by the MBA was their requirement that he **refer any member of Exit** who asks about voluntary euthanasia to a **mental health service**. Of those surveyed, 98.03% of members thought that Philip should not be forced to refer them to a psychiatrist if they asked him about voluntary euthanasia. Over 90% of members said they would **feel unhappy** if Philip referred them personally to a mental health service.

Finally, 98.29% of members reported that it was very or fairly **important that Philip continue his work at Exit**. On the basis of these results, Exit International is an organisation that has overwhelming member support. Exit members place great importance upon Exit and Philip's role in leading the organisation, regardless of whether he is a registered medical practitioner or not. Long Live Exit!



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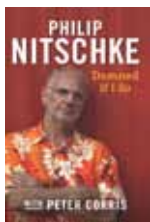
The Peaceful Pill Handbook (2013/14 ed)
 Within US: US\$48 (includes shipping)
 Rest of World : US\$70 (includes shipping)



The Peaceful Pill eHandbook
 (online edition) 24 months: US\$85
 Updated up to 6x year



Killing Me Softly: VE & the Road to the Peaceful Pill by Dr Philip Nitschke
 Within US: US\$33 (includes shipping)
 Rest of World : US\$48 (includes shipping)



Damned If I Do (autobiography) by
 Dr Philip Nitschke & Peter Corris
 AUD \$45 (incl shipping globally)

EXITINTERNATIONALSTORE.COM



Exit He Gas Flow Controls (with Plumbers Tape + Tube)
 Price: AUD \$200
 (ships DHL express courier/ express mail)



Exit Drug Test Kit (Qualitative)
 Price: AUD\$35 (incl shipping globally)



Max Bromson Quantitative Barbiturate Test Kit
 Price: AUD \$275
 (ships DHL express courier/ express mail)



35 Letters DVD
 Director: Janine Hosking
 AUD \$50 (incl shipping globally)

Join Exit International

I wish to join/ rejoin/ donate to Exit International
 (12 Months: Aust - A\$110 inc GST \$10; (couples \$165 inc GST \$15); US/Canada US\$100; UK/ Irel £62/ €73)
 Life membership - A\$1100 (inc GST \$100)

Please send me the paperwork to consider Exit International in my Will

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 Last Name _____
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