

Hi Frank

TOWARDS THE CLIMATE JOBS GUARANTEE AND MODERN MONETARY THEORY

REFERRING TO THE PAST TO PREPARE FOR THE PRESENT IN WOLLONGONG DEVELOPMENT

Thanks very much to you, Anton Dominis and many others for producing **Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony: Towards the First Smart Hi-Tech Eco-City in Australia: Wollongong (2013)**. It appears to be a helpfully clear and comprehensive historical and recent account of the Wollongong area and climate change policy as it was then presented. I consider it mainly for a brief regional audit in the present international and national contexts of Prime Minister (PM) Scott Morrison's government **Plan to Deliver Net Zero: The Australian Way** (2021). The plan hopes to reduce rates of global warming and for key green project identification and carriage in Wollongong in future.

CARBON TRADING: BLUE CARBON IN THE SEAS AND CREATING THE ILLAWARRA FORESHORE PARK

Part 1 of Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony: Towards the First Smart Hi-Tech Eco-City in Australia-Wollongong deals mainly with extraction of blue carbon and creation of an Illawarra Foreshore Regional parkland. The timeline (p. 7) shows you first proposed an Eco-Tourism Park Plan for Wollongong in 1998. The following key points arise for me today:

On p. 20 Restoring Blue Carbon Habitats to help reverse Illawarra's carbon footprint refers to 'the global role of oceans and its coastal systems; saline and freshwater wetlands and aquatic plants, etc. I am reminded that Andrew Forrest did his PhD in marine biology. I think that if this isn't available easily through the Wollongong University library, then it certainly should be, as discussed again later.

The start of Illawarra's **Carbon Footprint** was with the first coal mining in 1858 (p5)

A quality Foreshore Park along the seafront suburbs of Coniston, Wollongong, North Wollongong and Fairy Meadow was proposed around the turn of the 21st century.

In attachment 2 (p. 20) entitled **Save Lake Illawarra: The Jewel of Illawarra**, Dominis provides a view of the typical kind of industrial wastes which may perhaps be dumped into coastal wetlands of the world in many areas besides the Illawarra. Here the following had destroyed the natural habitat:

- a. Chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, detergents, etc.)
- b. Farm faeces and urine
- c. Industrial wastes (slag, coal-wash, fly ash and organic and metallic toxicants)
- d. Residential wastes (sewerage, plastics, etc.)

As a Glebe householder, I could add a lot more, such as renovation or travel related discards of building materials and furniture, toys, clothing and packaging of all kinds, as well as newspapers and food and green waste, for example. (The guys don't want to talk about waste.)

- e. Toxins (Road bitumen, leachates, vehicle exhaust, gases and industrial stack fumes)

Dominis points out that coastal wetlands were considered 'just swamps' whereas industrial wastes such as slag, coal-wash, coal-fired power station fly ash and furnace bottom ash came to be considered building materials which were put to use for road works, to make additional by-products such as cement and glass) and the rest went as landfill.

A new vision for Eco-City Wollongong still starts, I guess, with the Illawarra Foreshores Regional Parklands first proposed by the residents of Northern Illawarra (p.21) and with the related discussion of **blue** carbon. (I will try to get hold of Andrew Forrest's thesis on blue carbon through Sydney

University and the original West Australian university library if necessary. I have also bought Andrew Burrell's biography, **Twiggy: The high-stakes life of Andrew Forrest**, as he appears for very good reason to be the West Australian big poster boy for mining and Australian promotion to the world.

The **Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony** discussion on p. 4 remains perhaps most relevant to the environment and quality of life today and in future, from my position. It begins with consideration of blue carbon habitat; the blue carbon system and the Belmore Basin Wollongong Harbour Upgrade.

I am most interested in construction and other industry management as they relate to the forward regional research and development of bodies such as **Bush Heritage, of which I am a member**, for example. It was founded by Bob Brown in 1991 and today Bush Heritage is a national and independent not-for-profit conservation organisation that buys and manages land and partners with Aboriginal people to protect irreplaceable Australian landscapes and native species. Bush Heritage Australia has grown to protect and help manage over 11 million hectares from rainforests to woodlands, savannahs and other land and environments since its beginning. I guess the effective management of feral pests and wastes of all types are related regional priorities, as well as fire control measures through burning.

I was at a Glebe Grapevine Zoom meeting last night which was organised to defend and extend public housing. Up to a point, Lord Copper. A post-doctorate guy from University of Wollongong and Action for Public Housing named Alastair Sisson, spoke well and we might work together if I try to send him this. I don't know how often Green MP Jamie Parker's Glebe Office is ever used, or whether the money on the place next door is public money comparatively well spent. These things matter to serious people and I am interested in pursuing them.

WOLLONGONG WASTE WATER RECYCLING PLANTS, COMPOSTING AND TREATMENT OF WASTE FROM DAIRY FARMS

Part 2 of Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony: Towards the First Smart Hi-Tech Eco-City in Australia-Wollongong mainly discusses the need for better sewage and waste water treatment stations to prevent ocean and related water and land pollution.

Composting and the treatment of waste from dairy farms are also addressed with a little discussion of large-scale modern compost treatment plants which may also use methane as fuel. (My experience in Sydney is that guys working in rubbish are so secretive about what they are doing that few outside the construction industry are likely to have much of a clue they will discuss. However local government, private construction and related industries operate together or not in Wollongong is a closed book to me. After trying to understand these matters in Sydney from the householder perspective since 1994, progress appears to have been spectacularly slow until 2019. My strong impression is that big technology interests often rule more common-sense approaches to cleaning up which could be better coordinated if regionally opened better to wider knowledge and action.

I refer you to p. 13 **Carbon Tax or the Carbon Pricing Scheme** which states: *The federal government established a form of carbon tax (or permits) for major national polluters. Whether the scheme is called a tax or something else, it is irrelevant (sic.) – it is a form of payment or compensation.* (I will address related issues later but write only about the past and current regional contexts here.)

Looking at Wollongong now I guess the **City Centre Revitalization Strategy (2006)** won out with more giant empty hotels and other buildings as usual. I guess the moral of the story is that you've got to get the construction industry onside to implement any form of **Eco-Tourism Park Plan**. Global and local history and my experience since we last met suggests there is little chance of doing so. Nevertheless, I love the beautiful Wollongong Botanic Gardens and the free bus replacing the car. Baby boomers are an ageing group increasingly likely to need this support in all future interests.

MY INTEREST IN WORKING WITH YOUR SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

In **Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony (2013)** you confirm that we first met during the discussions of proposals for a national greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme (2005) and the Kyoto Protocol (2006), followed by the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (2008). There was a lot of discussion about greenhouse gas reduction and carbon emissions trading at that time in regard to the built and natural environments. You suggested I should consider these discussions in terms of projects aimed at treatment or building related to water, land or air improvement. This advice sat well with me. I set up www.Carolodonnell.com.au around 2008 and addressed your community recommendations about Wollongong and the Illawarra on it. I did so from the directions of the World Health Organization (WHO) and critically from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

On p.8 you state I was a policy advisor to the Carr Labor Government. In fact, I served in the NSW Department of Industrial Relations and Employment and the WorkCover Authority during the earlier decade of NSW government, most influenced by the intellectual directions introduced under Labor Premiers Pat Hills and Neville Wran, shortly before Liberal governments took them further. I was offered a golden handshake and went to work at the Faculty of Health Sciences at Sydney University shortly before Bob Carr was elected for Labor. I make this point mainly as I think normal loyalties and closures of political party and their related family and professional associations are often unhelpful to good governance in the interests of Australians now and in our related regions in future. It often seems that governments of either major party may be pushed by the reality of much older social relations embedded in adversarial legal, financial and professional funds and relations which are tightly closed. I have no idea about anything going on in Wollongong in or beneath its major employers today. **Who does?**

I personally recommend you invite William Nixon Apple, who recently received honours for services to superannuation and trade unions, to meet us all in Wollongong. He worked for the AMWU and ACTU for many years. I knew him intimately for eleven years before he left Sydney and went to work in Melbourne. However, he won't reply to any of my attempts to contact him and meet up to review old times. I suggest you have a go at getting hold of him. You might be able to do so if you are a member of Linked-In but I'm not because I don't like it. I don't do Twitter either.

I retired in 2007 from 11 years of teaching about WHO theoretical and practical directions at the Faculty of Health Sciences at Sydney University. Protective professional association for career advancement then meant that research might be privately conducted, or done according to the rules of professional peer review. Against the common commercial and US professional and IT odds, I have always strongly supported the professional and related government positions on intellectual property (IP) which may be found, for example, in Medicare approaches or in the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC), National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and Australian Health Ethics Committee Reports entitled **Essentially Yours, on the Protection of Human Genetic Information in Australia (2003)**. I am my own IP and the government may also store some of it on our collective behalf. I think that governments have a duty to support open operations that it funds.

In Medicare, for example, this certification and research approach is ideally designed to keep people safe from the kind of exploitation that is otherwise more easily promoted, for example, through social media and private clinics operating with unknown commercial connexions and incentives. For example, the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) and Four Corners on ABC TV showed findings from their joint investigation of a former dermatologist who has made a fortune practicing 'cosmetic' procedures including tummy tucks, liposuction, mini facelifts and breast implants. He and his clinics in many places have been accused of serious safety and hygiene breaches and botched operations that have left women in extreme pain. (SMH 25.10.21, p.1) This also seems the way of the wealthy IT future, where women appear to be more easily encouraged to mutilate themselves to look fresher

and younger, rather than wiser, or to avoid any pain which seems increasingly normalised through our common faith in pharmaceuticals or surgeons peddling well in markets.

From my regional health, education, research, administration and communication interests, following Popper, I am also most beckoned today by issues addressed by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) in regard to the difficulties of governing in the internet age. In his 2021 book **Governing in the Communications Age**, Paul Fletcher, Minister for Communications, makes the point that since its popular introduction and growth from around 1990 the internet has commonly been seen as a highly disaggregated and democratic construct of millions or even billions of small operations. Instead, led by US Silicon Valley operations, Australia and many other nations have increasingly faced extremely large, globally dominant businesses which enjoy apparently ever-increasing returns to a scale that make it impossible for competitors to grow in related size. Facebook, Amazon, Netflix and Google are examples. It is very hard for Australians to commercialize research and it has become increasingly clear to me that many good local approaches to services are also being quickly destroyed by forces called international competition but which are far from designed to serve us. I will address this in response to the latest ACCC reports when I get around to further reading.

So, this is a 2021 review of many past events related to sustainable development. **The Nature of Sustainable Development (Scribe 1993)**, by Sharon Beder, still appears to be a great text-book to get behind first as it appears clearly developed, straightforward and logical as well as well supported by her government and community at that time. Apparently, Beder wrote it while teaching in the science and technology studies department at the University of Wollongong (UOW). I would certainly love to see what she is doing now as she appears to be a great symbol for Wollongong direction to me. (I haven't read the book properly again yet but easily see her clarity of thought.)

THE MOST NATIONALLY POWERFUL DIRECTION NOW, REGARDLESS OF THE PARTY IN POWER

I mainly address Illawarra: **Nature and Technology in Harmony: Towards the First Smart Hi-Tech Eco-City in Australia (2013)** in the first light of Prime Minister (PM) Scott Morrison's government **Plan to Deliver Net Zero: The Australian Way**. He is taking a 2050 net zero target and updated emissions reduction plan to the Glasgow meeting of world leaders who pledge to reduce their national contribution to rates of global warming. On page 16, under the heading **Supporting Our Regions**, the plan to deliver net zero emissions produced a possibly useful list of government funds supposedly available for relevant projects. I guess the following category headings may be most relevant to the government direction. I note that construction remains coyly absent from the list, perhaps to take over industry entirely through the large industry super funds? (I've no idea.)

Industry, Mining and Manufacturing: Hydrogen will be great and so will low emissions steel, aluminium and cement. Carbon capture will be just as good.

Electricity: Ultra low-cost solar and energy storage are tops.

Agriculture: Soil carbon and feed supplementation are suggested.

Transport: Energy storage through low-cost batteries will make electric vehicles cheaper than conventional cars. Hydrogen and its derivatives could become the clean fuel of choice for emissions and shipping.

(I have no idea about any of these scientific, technological and engineering projects and am far from equipped with knowledge to understand or write on any related matters. Others definitely should.)

The general press view of **The Plan to Deliver Net Zero: The Australian Way** seems similar to that of Steve Hamilton, a visiting fellow at the ANU's Tax and Transfer Policy Unit, and an assistant professor of economics at George Washington University. In an Australian Financial Review (AFR) article entitled **A prayer, not a plan for net zero**, he writes that *'picking winners' is a charitable description*

of the PM's plan. A long bet is being placed instead on a handful of favoured technologies that it is hoped will solve the problem for everybody. Those winners are said to be clean hydrogen, batteries, green steel and aluminium, carbon capture and storage and soil carbon. (AFR 27.10.21, p.50).

As an old woman with no formal scientific or technological education or interest of any kind I seldom trespass upon any scientific or technological domain. However, as a householder who is on a strata committee for a Glebe strata plan of eighteen townhouses, I find myself well equipped to ask the question: ***What the hell do you guys think you are doing and why?*** (Is this my money we are spending?) I read press reports on Andrew Forrest with mounting amazement and bemusement rather than any understanding or attraction to anything much. He appears to be a national figurehead for investment of all types for good. (I've no idea but picked up his biography today.)

THE REPORT 'NATURE AND TECHNOLOGY IN HARMONY' IS ONTRACK IN MY HOPEFUL OPINION

I make the following points as a result of reading **Nature and Technology in Harmony: Towards the First Smart Hi-Tech Eco-City in Australia: Wollongong (2013)** for the first time since we met, around 2006, I guess. There appears to be a welcome change from the Australian National University (ANU) economists I was commonly hearing from then. They were attempting to price the 'super goods' of the natural environment and go on from there. This was a game for mathematical and financial experts and nobody else it seemed to me at the time. It was not the more pragmatic political economy approach to matters we sought. I distrusted this national thrust mightily because I thought politicians and other normal people would not understand it and would be afraid to say so. I had no confidence it would be of any benefit for marine environment protection but would allow big producers to strip the sea better financially instead through one way or another. Does it matter what we think? It does if none of us outside a small circle know what is going on.

The perfect national expert on such matters seemed recently revealed on a panel of three university climate change experts on ABC TV **Meet the Press**. Frank Jotzo is Professor of environmental economics and climate change economics at the ANU Crawford School of Public Policy, where he directs the Centre for Climate and Energy Policy. This is the same policy school as former PM John Hewson, who has great financial, political and administrative knowledge and experience in my view. On **Meet the Press**, I liked Professor Jotzo's comparatively undogmatic and non-numerical but practical approach to regional concerns related to climate change. I thought it made issues and solutions clearer for the great unwashed, like me and the girls as usual. See more at www.Carolodonnell.com.au Jotzo's original technical qualification is from Berlin, which has long benefited from global cooperation by the normal industry partners through the International Labour Organization, etc. Australia, you will recall, always preferred to maintain the usual British trade and class struggle approaches but who could forget the German mining, manufacturing and construction build-up to the second world war? (Bloody impressive, wasn't it, as seen on SBS TV?) We could easily go there again providing jobs, jobs, jobs, unless we were eventually beaten, of course. Then we might have to try something else useful, like cleaning up the waste. I bet Japan is a top leader?

Among other things Jotzo said, if I recall correctly, is that burning fossil fuels is the major problem of global warming and that most of the technologies have already been invented to reduce this, but have never been employed at scale. Having worked in universities and government I can easily believe that. He sought to replace coal and gas and to electrify transport as a priority. He also spoke of Australian renewable energy advantages (roof-top and other solar and wind farms). He said the most important thing for governments is not to prop up old industries but to assist the renewal to less carbon intensive ones. He addressed green carbon and green steel in the context of Minerals Council of Australia interests and in terms of their support for the necessary adaptations to reduce climate change that all major trading partners are also taking. Jotzo appears more concerned about increasing livestock and soil depletion adding to global warming problems than about increasing population adding to them. (I and others comfortably at home on the couch should mightily wonder

at this.) Perhaps you and Anton should try to interest him in Wollongong as you have done so much work on the Illawarra and know it so well already. I conceptualise **Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony** in this regional and personal historical context in any forward direction.

The National Press Club on ABC TV also had Catherine Woodthorpe, Science and Society Chief Scientist, formerly of the Cooperative Research Centres ('Queen of Fire and Ice (in Antarctica) on show. She said science and society goals should be judged in their capacity for being useful, usable, and used products. She talked about project impact, but didn't mention measurement. What kind of scientist is she? One from Cooperative Research Centre key administration, with Manchester degrees and a superficially very enviable capacity in regard to scientific and related product marketing. I guess there are many links to be made in universities, cooperative research centres, non-profit organizations like Bush Heritage, and in parts of governments designed to achieve sustainable development goals. My daughter works in the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust, for example. I wonder how best to track down people with skills most relevant in the Illawarra region and in Wollongong. Any Ideas? Are we aiming on finding a Coalition of the Willing in Wollongong and the Illawarra?

ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE

Since 1989 when the internet was introduced to the world of lap-top and desk-top computers, it seems to me the increasingly global construction and trade in real estate has helped to make Australians wealthier than ever before and among the richest people on the planet. Mining has linked Australian trade to the rising star of China in building and construction. Australia is bigger than any country in Europe and the land is driven by the increasing industry and personal pushes towards the global right of every individual with the borrowed funds to do so to live the American dream of freedom of choice in the market. Risk is naturally praised. Globally and nationally, the span of comparative wealth and inequality has been growing wider for years, rather than diminishing in the way neoclassical economics often suggests it should without government intervention. The mining, construction, manufacturing and other sectors have strongly shaped and encouraged us to want the following:

- a. Bigger housing and building envelopes for every individual who seeks them with related professional and government mandates for their building, management and renovation
- b. Air conditioning, which is perceived as a generally related right in private or public spaces
- c. Household swimming pools and increased consumption of water in bathrooms or gardens to be cleaner and more beautiful
- d. More and bigger cars per family
- e. More flights and other travelling holidays overseas rather than in Australia, which is often comparatively familiar and expensive for us natives who get it free

The older I get and the more I find out about the social construction of the past and present, the more I feel pessimistic about the potential for change which will meet many new targets in Australia which are related to the protection of natural resources for future generations. Since the advent of the iphone and social marketing approaches to the world it seems to me Australians are likely to remain increasingly driven into more lying, uncertain, and unequal futures through the normal US IT and Australian political, family and professional association secrets.

These guys like everything handled in the dark and just want to make money and create jobs through their associations as usual in my experience. If these matters can't be opened up to broader

public understanding and perusal because of normal commercial, political party and other perks of office and association, I have little faith in change in the mining, construction and manufacturing directions driving the lot with the normal associations of lawyers and financial arrangements as usual. I want to learn more about this next.

I have taken a related regional approach to jobs on www.Carolodonnell.com.au. This is the WHO approach to development which I taught for eleven years in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Sydney University after spending over a decade working in policy and management areas in the NSW public service. It was also taken, for example, in a submission to the Hoc Mai Australia/Vietnam Medical Foundation in 2012 which urges shared regional development through open strategic planning and also through simple technologies which are green, simple, reliable and cheap. In government on behalf of women and children ***we should recognize that the ideal aims of trade are to improve the quality of life for current and future generations and this depends on the quality of social and natural environments, as well as on increased financial gain and its distribution.***

In summary, it still seems to me that the best way towards eco- development and improvements in trade is for regions to plan their continuing development by situating the land, water or air most affected by any current and proposed development, in the context of the primary need to protect internationally and nationally endangered species. The responsibility for the planned protection of many endangered species is ideally taken up globally as well as regionally. Openly join Bush Heritage and us in attending to parks and habitat first as they are inextricably linked with preservation of history and heritage.

Cheers Carol O'Donnell www.Carolodonnell.com.au

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ON TARGETS

*Thanks very much Norm. However, I can't be bothered with Zoom events if I can read a book, or newspapers or watch TV or even watch on the internet instead. I speak as a woman who has just finished Communications Minister, Paul Fletcher's book for idiots talking down to idiots, **Governing in the Internet Age**. Targets are similarly uninteresting to me.*

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE IT HAPPEN, PAUL? *He appears to have the normal top professional idiots view of the ground and its ignorance of how things happen on it. He should be telling us how, not assuming the 'market' will bring his goals about, along with social and financial equilibrium. Who does he think we are? Why do they never tell us more about the obvious question of how it is supposed to happen, as if their passing a law is like waving a magic wand over the country and presto, everything that went before magically changes.*

They will not know about or will twist your law to what they wanted before. The top international boys' family associations will beat the lot of us women and kids forever, as I see it. After approving

his performance on ABC TV at the National Press Club, especially when answering; I now think this guy, Paul Fletcher, is a fatuous, overpaid twerp. Did his MUP editor write his book for him?

THIS IS A TOTALLY SHIT BOOK AND I INTEND TO COMPLAIN TO THE ACCC ABOUT IT. THEY SENT ME THEIR REPORT

AND THEN WHISKED IT AWAY AGAIN BEFORE I COULD READ IT PROPERLY!! IT ISN'T ON THEIR WEBSITE AND PAUL FLETCHER DOESN'T HELP. (SEE RELATED DISCUSSIONS ON DIRECTIONS ATTACHED WITH JOSH FRYDENBERG AND OTHERS.)

Frankly, in this context, I couldn't give a shit about their targets. I just don't believe in what they do about life and death in the West and where they are going. This creation of a person like me into part of an internationally forced medical and IT set of supposedly caring professional experiments until they set me free, pretending to be God, revolts me. I see everything through this old woman's lens now and I want to die easily and relatively pleasantly when I've had enough and I want the state to help me. They should thank me before they do it.

I bet a lot of Jews would agree that this anti-discrimination and mental health direction is just more lawyers and drugs or surgical money-making bullshit, to accompany the US Constitutional bullshit about gun trading in secret leading to defence instead of murder, accidentally or not. It isn't about targets as they are corrupting and corrupted with the normal professional incentives for money making in secret, starting in their comparatively rich secret associations. You have to have a search for truth in this somewhere, but you can't with lawyers as they ignore or pervert the grounded community around a dispute who may be more capable of more knowledgeable expression on any matter.as individuals. They know better than to talk, let alone attempt to write about the truth as they see it?

Sorry to be so negative but thanks for the reference again. See an alternative policy direction for women and kids attached as usual. Too bad the same old lot are still running the gig, with the usual US vampire squid associations who appear to be sucking the life out of more honest local or national business and judging young people's behaviour by how much money and stress they can take.

'The world was never meant for one as beautiful as you'? Cheers Carol