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ECOSO EXCHANGE NEWSLETTER

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News from the Crow Collection

A Few Pats on the Back

"Thanks a lot for the excellent video which I will show to my students here", (from Prof Leonie Sandercock, California, who was a lecturer in Urban Studies at Footscray Institute in the 1970s).

"The extra \$10 with gratitude for the Collection", (from Merinda Epstein a resident in Yarraville who is very much involved in children's services in the Western Region.

"The Children's Services Section (of Sunshine Municipality) congratulate you on the recent Children's Services Project. The material presented and republished will be extremely valuable for both students and workers of the area in future," (from Sue Parsons, Children's Services Co-ordinator, City of Sunshine Vic.)

"I have watched the video several times (there is so much to learn from it). I have no doubt it will be of enormous value both as a resource for the field and as a learning tool for students," (Bernadette Collins, Community Child Care, Victoria).

A Spring Picnic Beside the Maribrynong River

Mark October 11 in your diary now to make sure you keep the date to come to the Crow Collection's Spring Picnic beside the Living Museum of the West, from about noon. The Museum is in an old pipe factory in Van Ness Avenue, Maribrynong, (see Melway Map 28.) Bring Your Own lunch.

A Busy Year for Committee Members and Their FamiliesStudy Tours to Europe

Sheila Byard, Hon. Sec of the CCA was a participant in the 6th Congress of the Association of European Planning Schools which was held in Helsinki and Stockholm early in June. Later she led a three week study tour entitled "Scandinavian Cities - a professional experience program" based on visits to Copenhagen, Helsinki and Stockholm and the ancient University City of Uppsala.

In Helsinki the group saw the displays commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Republic of Finland, the 100th anniversary of the Finnish Association of Architects and the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Tapiola.

Sheila also had a short stay in the United Kingdom looking at the voluntary sector in the Hastings Conservation Trust and Earth Summit related activities in the community. Through the hospitality of the Planning Department of the University of West Midlands (Birmingham Polytechnic) she was able to attend the Royal Town Planning Institute Annual Conference. She reports that this conference was marked by its allocation of time to the Greens and the voluntary sector and by a strong program of site visits which included a day at Worcester looking at the impact of European Community funding upon conservation planning.

Sheila is looking forward to returning some of the hospitality the group received when Pev Olav Nylander of the Swedish Association of Local Authorities is in Melbourne later this year. Conference arrangements for Mr Nylander's visit are being made by Jenny Wills of the Municipal Association of Victoria, in October. More information MAV (03) 824.8411

Last year Jenny Wills attended the 30th World Congress of the International Union of Local Government which was held in Oslo. There is a brief report on Jenny's impressions in Ecoso 2/17 page 4.

Two other CCA Committee Members, have also been visiting Europe; Morag Loh's trip included Czechoslovakia and John Dick's Germany.

Community Theatre and Neighbourhood Networks

Committee member, Julie Statkus, is following in her daughters footsteps (Marny Statkus is the student actress in the video "Scattering Seeds for Change"). In July, Julie was one of the actresses in "City of Voices" which was the first play to be presented at the Gasworks Centre in South Melbourne.

Julie also finds time to help with "Stony Creek L.E.T.S." in Yarraville (Stony Creek is the meandering tributary which enters the Yarra at Yarraville).

LETS stands for Local Exchange Trading System. It "recognises that money is really only a measure and ideally has no value of its own, that wealth of a community is really the goods and services it provides....LETS is basically a register of skills and resources".

Committee member, Audrey Davies, has also been involved in community theatre. She is a teacher at Preston Girls High School and was responsible for about 30 students participating with more than 400 others in the play, "Where the Waters Meet", which was recently held near Dights Falls.

Audrey is very appreciative of the educational value the CCA project materials on the history of child care. She uses it for VCE Australian Studies. She recently organised a joint seminar for year eleven students from Deer Park Secondary College and Preston Girls and invited Ruth Crow to be the keynote speaker. A cassette of the seminar is available from the Crow Collection Association for \$7.00 (includes postage).

Conservation Network

Rod Charles who joined the CCA Committee this year has been one of the main people to initiate a newsletter "Network" which is being used by over twenty environmental organisation in and around the Geelong Region.

Rod is directly involved in the Geelong Urban Forum which meets monthly. This organisation states that "The forum has the potential to raise the general attitude of more Geelong people (and visitors) to what this place does and can do to us. It sets a positive line of thinking on the city, the place in which we live and work. It goes some way to forging images for Geelong to see itself as a significant place in the world."

For more information about the Network and the Geelong Environment Council phone Joan Lindros 052. 22.3033 (W) ; 052. 43.4301 (H). or Pauline Webb 03.63.1924. To contact the Geelong Urban Forum phone Rod, 052.29.8494

Welcome to Tim, Lyell, Sean and Liam

Committee member (and project worker) Christine Carolan gave birth to Tim in mid-January (the day after she and her family enjoyed the Ecoso picnic at the Botanical Gardens).

Peter Durkin, vice chairperson's son was born about Easter time and the proud parents have called him Lyell.

Jenny Fitzgerald who represented the VUT Library on the CCA gave birth to Sean a couple of weeks after she had helped at the May All-age Celebration and launch of the project materials.

And to complete the foursome of sons, the CCA President, Peter Gibbon's son, Liam, was born in July.

Let's hope the weather on October 11 is pleasant and that the proud mothers, fathers brothers and sister can all come to the Living Museum picnic (see page 1 of this Ecoso), otherwise we will have to wait until our Summer Gathering in to Gloaming to smile at the new arrivais.

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A Reminder. Please check your address slip ! (see Ecoso page 13)
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The Commonwealth State Housing Agreement

This Ecoso will be going to press before the Federal Government Budget has been delivered so the details of the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement are not yet known. But it is timely to popularise some information which has been published by the Melbourne Inner Urban Housing Council on the proposed scrapping of the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement.

The CSHA was initiated by the Chifley Government. It is the major avenue through which the Commonwealth distributes funds to the States for direct expenditure on housing. Housing programs funded by CSHA include public housing, crisis accommodation, co-operative housing, mortgage relief, aboriginal housing, youth housing, rooming houses and estate improvements.

The CSHA is a "tied" grant from the Commonwealth to the States which is matched on a dollar for dollar basis. The Commonwealth through the 1989 agreement made a commitment of \$1,028 million each year for four years.

With the proposed untying of the grants a portion of the funds would become part of a pool of monies which the Commonwealth provides for the states for general revenue... no conditions attached. The other part of the funds would be used to provide a ""uniform"" rental assistance to cover both the private rental market and a new "social housing" sector. Untying the grants would provide no guarantee that present funding for housing, present principles, or the present range of programs would continue. The State Governments would become responsible for meeting the housing needs of people, but would have no legal or financial obligation to do so, they could spend their allocations on whatever they see fit.

A 1989 study found that over the long term; expenditure on rental subsidy would be much less effective than sustained development of public housing. The study found that over a twenty year period up to 65 % more households would receive assistance if funds were channelled to public housing rather than the rental subsidy.

An attraction of the subsidy is that it immediately removes the largest group, those defined as suffering "housing stress". It is thus a political wand solution... define housing stress, provide a subsidy to prevent people being covered by the definition... housing stress disappears. However it is highly likely that a subsidy to renters will increase rents.

And finally a warning from the Housing Council... It needs to be remembered that private enterprise owners are not involved in housing provision for social good.

More information about Housing from Andrew Mahar, Inner Urban Region Housing Council, Box 625, Carlton South 3053, 03,663.8199.

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Karl Marx warned about 140 years ago :-

"The landowner in his capacity as capitalist has not only the right, but, by reason of competition, to a certain extent, even the duty, of ruthlessly making as much out of his property in house rent as he possibly can. In such a society the housing shortage is no accident, it is a necessary institution."

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"Living in Sydney"
Local Government and Community Coalitions

The "Living in Sydney Conference" which was held last year has resulted in Sydney's Local Government and Community Sector Project which is based independent five specific proposals :- an air pollution campaign; a campaign for community input into public decision making, preparation of an alternative plan for Sydney; setting up a network of progressive independent local government councillors and the (now completed) resource booklet.

A report on the first nine months activities around the project has been written by Tanya Ritchie and published in the newsletter of the New Left Party (NLP).

Here are some quotes from Tanya's report :-

Considerable thought went into working out our general aims in terms of the NLP and the politics we want to cultivate. This led to the quite specific aim of the project being (for the moment at least) to increase the effectiveness of existing progressive forces in local government. Strategies for achieving this were identified as :

- a) The development of a network of progressive councillors (this proposal has met with the most enthusiasm).
- b) Strengthening the links between the community sector and local government through specific campaigns and information distribution.
- c) Developing the NLP Anti-Hewson campaign at the local government and community level.

The report lists the opportunities for political work offered by the project :-

- * People are involved in struggles around their immediate problems, such as : traffic safety, violence, pollution, housing, and domestic isolation. All of these have a direct impact on the quality of people's lives.
- * Involvement in community based struggles can bring about tangible gains, resulting in both improved conditions and sustained energy for further involvement.
- * To develop interest in organised politics it is appropriate to take up issues that people directly relate to, and create an environment where we can draw our own conclusions about our problems and the potential of political organisation.
- * The disjunction of organised politics around community concerns provides a unique opportunity for the NLP to play a constructive role. It is an area which has been traditionally neglected by the Left in favour of work-place struggles and either ignored or trivialised by mainstream political parties.

The project's role is not to take up specific issues, but to facilitate struggles of people who, have already identified their issues and want to bring about change. We have a lot to offer which doesn't interfere with the autonomy of community activists but can contribute to improved conditions and the development of progressive political organisation.

She emphasises the co-ordination role of the NLP starting :-

We are not a "single issue" organisation so we can take a holistic approach to broad-based attacks like the "Fight-back" package, and we don't have to concentrate our resources on a particular aspect.

We aren't focused on parliamentary policies, which gives us the flexibility to do things which may not be electorally popular.... increasing the electoral power of our organisation is not our ultimate objective

In the conclusions she states :-

Rather than concentrating on building the New Left Party in a political and cultural environment which is resisting, we are focusing on those aspects of our platform which encourage alliance and coalition work but acting more as a facilitator rather than as a participant

(More information about the New Left Party from Box 19, Trades Hall Council, Goulburn Street, Sydney , 2000.)

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Privatisation of Local Government Services

Interview with President of NSW Local Govt. Assoc.

The July 8th issue of the Broadside Weekly newspaper printed an article by Lyn Fraser, a tutor of industrial relations at the University of Wollongong in which she talks with Peter Woods, president of the Local Government Association of NSW and the Mayor of Concorde (a Sydney suburb).

While the issue of privatisation has been the subject of considerable debate over the past decade attention has been focused on the federal and state sectors.

This timely article points out that at 1991 annual conference of the local Government Association of NSW (LGA) the NSW minister for Local Government (Gerry Peacock) unveiled proposals for legislative reform of local government stating that :-

Councils will be obliged to call tenders for significant public works or services which are available in the public sector.

Here are some quotes from the answers given Peter Woods gave to Lyn Fraser's questions (emphasis has been added) :-

If the notion was, as I believe, a push toward privatisation and Thatcherism in NSW, then we must be absolutely alert and make sure that it does not come about.

I am not discounting the notion of competitive tendering under certain circumstances, and contracting out may well be an appropriate way of proceeding. But it is rather ironic that some of the greatest opposition to the notion of being obliged to do this has come from rural groupings in NSW (within the coalition government) where they recognise the very significant effect that contracting out to private Sydney-based companies has in terms of local rural employment. It could be taking away resources from the communities and closing them up as a consequence.

What often happens in the process of competitive tendering is that private forms will undercut councils in order to gain contracts and gain a monopoly over service. Once they have a monopoly they increase costs and councils are forced to pay. By establishing a monopoly they enhance their bargaining position.

When a contract has been allocated to a private firm, councils may do away with their workforce and equipment, then later find themselves at the beck and call of a contractor.

We have to look at work practices and, more importantly, at managerial practices.... I believe that inefficiencies are often the result of managerial practices. Workers know where inefficiencies lie. By valuing their opinions it can be possible to make productivity improvements - you don't need to contract out to achieve that.

We must remember that they (the contractors) are guided by the profit motive. As such, they would be concerned that their workforce maximises profit.

While they (the contractors) may endeavour to provide services efficiently and competitively, they may not necessarily do this in a socially responsible manner.

It might well be that with improvements in efficiency within councils that work teams are able to successfully tender for their own work.

(More information about "Broadside" from suite 106, 3 Smail Street, Broadway, NSW 2000).

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Democracy and the Property Vote

Proposed Electoral Changes for Melbourne City Council

This issue of Ecoso republishes an article from the Melbourne Age which was written a few days after the Melbourne City Council announced its "astonishing proposals"(see next page).

Ecoso reprints this Age article in appreciation of the significant contribution to democracy which is being made by a handful of Melbourne City Councillors and the community and business organisation which are campaigning against the proposed "reforms". The stranglehold of BIG BUSINESS in the MCC has been challenged over and over again.

5 JUNE 1992 THE AGE

Democracy a loser to the property vote

A NEW FEUDALISM has been visited on Melbourne, courtesy of its own City Council.

Last Monday, without pausing to consult their constituents, 13 councillors took a giant step backwards when they voted to give a group of property owners significantly more electoral power than the rest of their constituents.

Six councillors — myself included — voted against this astonishing proposal; the remaining two were overseas and therefore didn't vote. That 13 Melburnians should ask the city to mark its 150th birthday by deliberately rejecting the ideal of "one vote one value" is to say least remarkable.

The 13 councillors supported a proposal to drop from 21 councillors to 11, though the total number will still be negotiable.

To make up the 11, six will be elected by residents to represent residents and five will be elected by commercial ratepayers to represent commercial interests. Council officers informed Monday night's historic meeting that some 31,000 residents will elect one set of six councillors and a proportionately larger commercial team of five will be elected by about half that number of voters.

You don't need a calculator to work out that a commercial vote will carry more weight than a resident vote — or to know that, unless things change very suddenly, a commercial voter is more likely to be a male (who can augment his advantage by voting early and twice if he is also a resident!).

Supporters of privileged voting are confidently predicting that as soon as the system is set up in the City of Melbourne, new local government legislation will spread it to other municipalities.

Consider for a moment that a comparable change at the parliamentary level would double the votes of the highest taxpayers. Universal suffrage — whose early introduction in Australia was a triumph in the history of democracy — would be over. Is that the way we want to go?

LORNA HANNAN, a councillor who voted against Monday's Melbourne City Council decision on electoral change, argues that it is a retrograde step.

ONE of the arguments used to persuade the 13 councillors to put other people's democratic rights on the market was that they might purchase commercial and political support for a council presiding over an area greater than the Central Business District.

It is a messy ploy. It presents a moral dilemma of some magnitude; can you really afford to sell off a slab of democracy? It creates a substantial conflict of interest: can a council which wants to encourage greater residential interests in the city then favor commercial interests at their expense?

Perhaps some councillors were persuaded that the new arrangements would give them a better chance of winning their seats back in a later election? A smaller CBD council may have made that more difficult. Perhaps there was rather less altruism and zeal

for reform than early commentators suggested?

Meanwhile, the plot has been lost. Serious and important issues — not just trade-offs — should influence where the boundaries of the City Council will be drawn.

All of these recommendations came to the council in a white paper developed by its own senior management team under the title 'Central Melbourne: Proposals for Effective City Government'.

The files of the Crow Collection contain a number of official MCC reports, but more importantly numerous community reports, submissions and working papers which document some of these challenges.

In advancing the idea of a council divided between residential and commercial interests, management perhaps almost unconsciously set up the kind of divide-and-rule scenario with which it is comfortable and which is to its own advantage. With official rival groups in the council chamber, there is more than adequate space for a powerful bureaucracy to flourish.

THE checks and balances needed to contain a burgeoning bureaucratic power are barely alluded to in the white paper — yet they are already a substantial problem for council.

There is often less of a political contest among councillors than there is a very real division between them and the powerful group of highly skilled, articulate professionals who head up the council's bureaucracy.

As a group, the management team is thorough, competent, ambitious; but their professional reputations are measured outside the world of politics and they are not publicly accountable in anything like the same way as elected councillors. Indeed, the issues of public accountability, for both councillor and management, are not brought under scrutiny in this document.

Some big issues get bleached out of public discussion papers as they make the journey from green to white.

This paper lost sight of the plan to reorganise the relationships of nearby inner-city municipalities. The express aim of the white paper is simply to bring back a business-led council. It is no solution to the problems of the city.

Business had a long run in at the Town Hall. It was dismissed because it was a failure, and Melbourne needed a fuller, more vigorous, more eclectic form of government — one that matched its underlying spirit.

What the city needs now is what it has always needed — leadership, sound policies, commitment. It will not get any of that from a hybrid group based on sectional self-interest. The truly important issues raised in the proposals were either squashed or squibbed last Monday night.

Out of Site : the Los Angeles Riots

Andrea Sharam, a member of the People's Committee for Melbourne recently reviewed some of the articles in "Out of Site : A Social Criticism of Architecture by Diane Ghirardo (Bay Press Seattle, 1991).

She referred, in particular, to an article by Mike Davis about the Watts Rebellion in LA in the 1960s. Here are some quotes from her article :-

The Watts Rebellion inspired drastic changes for city development. Rather than the adoption of the "Centropolis" Plan which hoped to bring back life to the historic core of the city that had fallen into decay with decentralisation. The mortgage bankers and leasing agents defected and talked about death of downtown.

The plan that was accepted in the post Watts reality was the the Central City Association's "Central City LA 1972 to 1990", commonly known as the 'Silverbook'. Its vision was not the revitalisation of old downtown but the creation of a new downtown : a corporate fortress strategy segregating the undesirable elements of L.A. society (the homeless poor and black) from the emerging finance sector based corporate society.

Davis traces the politics of planning in L.A. from 1900 to 1991. From the emergence of car culture, something we are frighteningly familiar with, to the eventual realisation of the new heavy light rail, cynically not for the purpose of reducing horrendous traffic problems and resultant pollution but almost solely to promote speculative development corridors.

The past twenty-five years saw L.A become a developers' dream. In the process tens of thousands of people had their residences and neighbourhoods demolished with almost no attempt to re-house these dispossessed. The over-riding vision of planners and developers (beside massive profits) was for a lively corporate/residential inner city populated by Yuppies.

The most distressing element, politically, is that the razing of old L.A. (and its production economy) for speculative profits, first for local players, then the massive Canadian property developers and finally the onslaught of Japanese investment, was orchestrated and funded by the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) a public body. The public subsidised the private players through the loss of control over tax increments. The small amount of money that went back into general revenue failed to compensate the homeless and dispossessed. Ironically the Mayor who has overseen the implementation of "Silverbook" plan is Tom Bradley, who took office not long after the Watts rebellion and is the first black mayor of the city. A city that again erupted in violence as the events since 1965 have only exacerbated the plight of those removed from both the planning and democratic decision making processes.

(Thanks Andrea and the People's Committee for Melbourne for such a useful article. More information about PC for M, phone Joan Doyle, 326.8245.)

The Olympic Games....Women and Sport

The women's movement is more often than not silent on issues of women and sport yet sport is an integral part of our society with a great amount of power and prestige attached to it.

Cashing in on public interest in sport resulting from the Olympic Games, Ecoso draws attention to two articles in the latest issue of "Modern Times" (August 1992) and to the section on Sport in the "Women's Charter" which was published by the Union of Australian Women in 1990.

Firstly a quote from an article (in August "Modern Times") by Martin Mowbray called "Women Battle for a Sporting Chance" :-

Local Government bias for sports facilities for men.

Federal and state governments are still, however, to get around to attacking the most significant institutional barrier to equal opportunity in sport: local government. Local government is the main provider of infrastructure for sport - ovals, stadiums and so on. But the question of bias in providing these facilities to user groups continues to be ignored.

And now a quote from the second article in "Modern Times"; Mike Ticher's "The Feminine Physique". He writes about the effect on women of the idea that competitive sport is somehow "unfeminine":-

Women trapped in conforming to femininity

Marion Stell, the author of a recent history of women's sport in Australia "Half the Race", agrees that sport to many women has seemed "closely linked with the male culture they are fighting against". But she sees the question not in terms of women withdrawing from sport, but rather as one of consciousness raising. "Sportswomen, themselves," she argues, lacked a political analysis of their own oppression" As a result, "some sportswomen were consciously trapped into emphasising conformity and femininity, the very things which are used by men to discourage women from playing sport".

The UAW's "Women's Charter" was based on ideas discussed at a Women's Summit held late in 1989. Pam Matthews, a sportswoman who presented a paper at the Summit, emphasised the need to combat ideas that competitive sport was "anti-intellectual, uncultured and undesirable". She said :-

To be weak is not a virtue

Women have fought and struggled to be accepted on equal terms with men emotionally and intellectually. I believe it is now time for women to start asserting themselves physically. For too long women have willingly accepted the role of being physically inferior, delighting in being weak, defenceless and dependent. To be weak is not a virtue, it is a disability.

The discussion following Pam's contribution was edited into a section of the Women's Charter. Here are some quotes from the women participants :-

Men and women affected detrimentally.

For many people sport provides a means to a fuller and healthier life. It is a focus of national pride and at the local level it can play an

important role in developing community spirit, providing opportunities for socialising and forming networks. At a personal level sport builds confidence and the ability to overcome setbacks and disappointments. to challenge and conquer oneself, to fulfil dreams and to earn respect from others (and to give others respect) when set goals have been achieved. However, the way sport is currently organised in our society affects both men and women detrimentally.

Reinforcing dominant ideology of male superiority

Sport is ideally placed to reinforce the dominant ideology of male superiority. It is obvious who runs the fastest, who jumps the highest, who throws the furthest; and from these measurable facts lies power for legitimating the commonly held belief about women's physical frailty.

The Women's Charter also showed how the media popularises the traditional images of women's behaviour, diminishing the achievement of women. The classic example given was from the 1984 Olympic Games when the Melbourne Herald published an article which stated :-

An athlete of undiminished femininity

Tears flowed like spring rain as the elfin Australian realised that she had become the country's first track and field medallist for 16 years....There were women athlete at the Olympics who were distinguished by their moustaches and physiques that would alarm Deam Lukin, and it is enough to say that Glenis Nunn was not one of them. She was an athlete of undiminished femininity who smiled warmly and spoke softly, who ran lightly and with grace, who triumphed with modesty and who accepted her hour of happiness in the time honoured women's way, she cried. That is why the world applauded.

And, now for a few words from Mike Ticher's concluding paragraphs :-

There is a problem

First and foremost there's a problem, for male sports administrators and journalists in their attitudes towards women and sport. But there is also a much wider debate - attitudes towards sportswomen go to the heart of what we think competitive sport is all about. If it really is primarily a male domain, a psychological and physical training-ground for violence and war, then it really is freakish for Lisa Curry-Kenny to grow muscles and for Kerry Turner to indulge in the "full-on aggression" of international water polo.

But if it is not, if in fact it is perfectly normal for women to behave like that too, why should some feel the need to assert their femininity by making a point of wearing make-up.....It seems to me that while women remain ambivalent or deeply divided about their role in sport, getting fair treatment is going to be that much harder.

(The address for "Modern Times" is PO Box 274, Fitzroy 3065, phone 03. 419.6622, sub \$45 a year, \$35 concession. The 1990 "Women's Charter" can be purchased for \$5.00 - plus postage - from the Union of Australian Women, Ross House, 247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000, 03. 654.7409.)

VUT In Top Ten

The Victoria University of Technology has been listed in the top ten Universities of Australia in this year's of the "Good Universities Guide". The guide gives a comprehensive description of every tertiary institution in Australia.

Four other Victorian universities, Monash, Deakin, Swinburne and Melbourne, have received this distinction.

The Deprived West/ The Determined West

Ideas from 1972

"The Deprived West/ the Determined West" is the title of one of the booklets which have been printed as part of the Project on Children's Services in the Western Metropolitan Region.

This booklet is a facsimile of 12 pages from "Plan for Melbourne Part 3" which was written by Ruth and Maurie Crow in 1972 as an objection to the Board of Work's Metropolitan plan for a sprawling metropolis.

The Crows proposed an "Innovative Community Controlled 'Open University' for the Western Region" stating :-

At the outset it should be stated that the west is deprived in that there are no tertiary educational institutions except the technical schools. For many years there have been requests for teachers colleges, kindergarten colleges and a university; also there has been a continual campaign for another hospital (which is also in effect a tertiary educational institution) ...land has been set aside for a teachers' college near St Albans but so far all that exists is the bare land.

....The fact that, to date, the west has been deprived of tertiary facilities can be turned to an advantage. Completely new types of educational centres can be provided.

....There is need not only for changes in the educational curriculum, but changes in the type of student to be attracted. We are entering a period when there will be many more people who regard education as a continuing process all through life; provision of education for mature age men and women is now on the agenda.....new fields of employment are opening up. There is a shift to the service industries.... to provide these basic services educated people are needed.

(The booklet "Deprived West/ Determined West" is available from the Crow Collection for \$2.00 plus \$1.00. Also, some copies of "Plan for Melbourne Part 3", (a 150 page book), are available free of charge but it will cost \$1.50 postage. This 1972 publication is now 20 year old, however, the ideas are still relevant and browsing through it may be helpful to people who are involved in some of the current planning issues.)

The next issue of Ecoso will include some up to date information about the Western Metropolitan Region.

Paying Subscription for Ecoso

Thanks to Richard Leiva at the VUT Footscray Campus the Ecoso address system is now computerised. This makes it easier to let subscribers know when their subs are due.

When Is Your Sub Due ? You can find this out by looking at the number on your address slip. If the number corresponds with the number of the Ecoso it means that your subscription is now due. For example this is Ecoso 21, therefore number 21 on the address slip means that your subscription is now due. If the address slip number is 22 your sub. will be due with Ecoso 22 which will be out in a couple of months time. If the number is 23, then your sub. will be due when you receive Ecoso 23 and so on and so forth.

A subscription of \$10.00 covers the cost of 7 Ecoso Newsletters, so subscribers whose subs are due with Ecoso 21 and who send \$10 to the Crow Collection before the next mail out will have the number 28 on their next address slip.

Star Subscribers Some subscribers have been very generous and their address slips are starred (*) which means they are permanently on the mail out list. A star and a number means that although the subscriber has been generous, a further subscription would be appreciated. A star is also on the address slip of complimentary Ecosos, these are sent to some libraries and community organisations (usually in exchange for community publications) and to those who regularly give voluntary help.

No Number and No Star This means that you have received more than 7 Ecoso without paying a subscription and therefore your name may be deleted from the mail-out list unless a subscription is received.

Cost of Ecoso It costs nearly \$1 for each Ecoso. Postage is 45 cents (and this cannot be reduced), paper and printing etc are about 50 cents (this can only be reduced by reducing number of pages). There is no charge for researching, writing and typing the newsletter. It is necessary to charge \$10 for 7 issues of Ecoso to cover cost of late subscriptions, complimentary mail out etc. In any case Ecoso, is really the main way finance is acquired for the administration of the Crow Collection Assoc.

Benefits of Numbering System The system of numbers the address slip means that subscribers are paying by the number of newsletters they are receiving rather than by the year. For the past four years Ecoso has been coming out, fairly regularly, every two months so that an annual subscriber received 6 issues. The numbering system also gives more flexibility in the frequency of producing Ecoso. In the future the interval between issues may vary a little from 1 to 3 months. This will allow the newsletter to be produced when useful resource material is available rather than continuing the production of six issues a year. The \$10 subscription may cover the subscriber for about eighteen months.

A Reminder If there is no number and no star on your address slip, or if the number is 21, please send \$10.00 to the Crow Collection Association, C/o Sheila Byard, Urban Studies Unit, Victoria University of Technology, (Footscray) PO Box 14428 MMC Melbourne 3000.

Subscription to Ecoso

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Please send to Crow Collection Association, C/o
Ms. Sheila Byard, Urban Studies Unit, Victoria
University of Technology (Footscray Campus), PO
Box 14428, MNC, Melbourne 3000.

Subscription \$10.00 for 7 issues.

Aims of Ecoso :-

1. to provide information, Australia-wide, to various groups and individuals in the ecology (sustainable society) movements.
2. encourage the development of links between the trade unions and the ecology movement.
3. popularise efforts to find common grounds on some issues between political parties and community movements.
5. enhance the accessibility and comprehensiveness of the Crow Collection.

History of Ecoso

Ecoso Exchange Newsletter was first published in June 1967. Originally it was called "Irregular" but changed its name to Ecoso in 1975. It was discontinued for a few years in the early 1980s, but revived in 1988. A number of original subscribers are still subscribing. The current number system... 2/..... was started in 1988. A full set of Irregular/Ecoso is in the Crow Collection

Ecoso
ECO for ecological and
SO for sociological.



The Crow Collection Association (Incorp.)
A Living Library to Plan for the 21st Century

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