

# ABC Bush Mechanic Series

A truly great series on Indigenous Bush Mechanics has been made by ABC, as per below. Well worth a watch. <https://shop.abc.net.au/products/bush-mechanics-the-series-1> . From my research it is also telling to note that Bush Mechanic type skills are very much alive and kicking in indigenous communities in Australia and overseas esp. Africa.



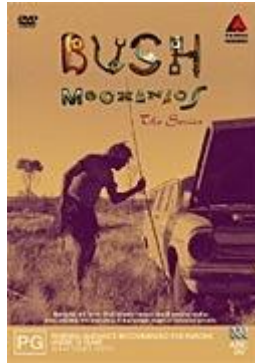
Indeed such skills are developed as part of the ‘learning by doing’ approach to kids and adults/village learning (intergenerational/elder based/mentor oriented/initiation inclusive). For me it is one of the great tragedies of Western (supposed) culture that we have moved so far away from knowledge systems of practical hope towards almost deifying abstract thinking in our education and public service policy development systems. Because of this we have named our business Kids and Adults Learning (in a Grove of gum trees) KALGROVE. <http://www.kal.net.au/home/> please see the adult top right menu bar item for ‘Adult Learning’, also directly accessible through <http://kalgrove.com/adultlearning/> .

Drive through many outback towns and one will see the relics of this era i.e. disused and derelict Mechanics Institutes and Schools of Arts. All states had a Workers Education Association now only the rudiments remain all taken over by the top down approach of Competency Based Learning on the basis of National Curriculum!!!

*So now more than ever the ABC series is soooooo important.*

Indeed an importance that goes far beyond its venerable subject matter and goes to the very heart of what it is to learn in the context of what it is to be human. Indeed as an aside Practical Hope links to Practical Knowledge links to Practical Wisdom. Here I submit, in line with Little 2006, that it is the Practical Wisdom as practiced over the millennia in the Confucian Commonwealth that may well be the emergent powerhouse of this 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**NB:** The Confucian Commonwealth includes - China, Vietnam, Korea (north and south) and Vietnam) and comprises a population of several times that of the 500m or so of larger Europe. Little 2006.



## **Bush Mechanics - The Series**

DVD \$29.99 Ready to Deliver (accessed 20-04-2015) ([6 reviews](#)) | [Review this product](#)

### **Description**

This popular off-beat series follows the exploits of a group of young Aboriginal men as they travel across the central desert in their clapped-out cars. In each episode the five Bush Mechanics from the remote Warlpiri community of Yuendumu are faced with a new set of challenges and a host of mechanical problems, which they solve with inventive bush repair techniques.

Combining adventure, magic, realism and a distinctive brand of humour, Bush Mechanics provides an insight into both contemporary and traditional Aboriginal culture.

Rated: PG

Duration: Approx. 110 mins.

2003

**PAL Format - Region 4 DVD**

**(for use on Australian DVD players)**

### **Additional Resource**

Little, R. (2006). *A Confucian-Daoist Millennium?* Bacchus Marsh Australia: Connorcourt. 280pgs.