

Issue Flyover

The theme of this issue of CRAFT is *Planetary Bricolage and Transhumanism; becoming Fully Human - balance, splash & ripple (before we become TransHuman (TH))*.

Today we see a techno-utopian rush towards Transhumanism that in many ways has become unstoppable. So much so, that in the drift in this direction sites of resistance are few and far between indeed. This issue of CRAFT seeks to be one such humble site. Oh, how some of us long for even one intentional community themed around becoming fully human rather than the technocratic massified future we now see rushing at us.

Yet must it be thus?

The essential premise of this approach is that technology should extend human potential not replace it. So technology should seek to improve our health, help us be better drivers and so forth rather than replace us.

This is an extremely difficult and challenging position as herein we are saying that crafting our humanity with our hands hearts heads and hearth is crucial yet not perfect. Not perfect in both intent and extent. That is when we design human systems we accept they are messy and flawed and indeed we can even understand perfection as including uncertainty and incompleteness even flawed. In addition, from an internal perspective humanity and Nature in general is also messy and unfortunately, we are, to an increasing extent, making it more so.

Here *in the extent* we confront the horrors of the Gulag and of Auschwitz. The latter right in the heart of Enlightenment Europe.

And *in the intent*, we face our inner messy biology we face the horrors of cancer, of disability and beyond.

Yet these are both part of our human nature both challenges first for governance and accountability and the second for a healthy hands on lifestyle and wholesome food and community. Most folks in the developed world do not have any of these and yet we overlay that with a techno-utopian gloss that in many ways is only worsening these essentially human and increasingly planetary crises.

Is there then a way forward a way of humanity that can with dignity re-gain, re-imagine and indeed, re-construct what it is to be fully human before we become transhuman? I maintain yes, there is and the Planetary Bricoleur is one part, I submit an important part of the answer. Other key parts include for instance praxis movements such as Permaculture <https://permacultureaustralia.org.au/>, and anti-poverty and urban renewal movements such as Transition Towns <http://transitiontownsaustralia.blogspot.com.au/> <http://earthwiseharmony.com/CONNECT/EH-Transition-Towns-Australia.html>; yet both of these movements and associated NGO's miss craft let alone CRAFT as a crucial aspect of each and indeed a linking element in the jigsaw of re-constructing civic space.

So yes in terms of this Issue becoming Fully Human (FH) is a case of *balance* and indeed 're'-balance whereby we need to apply an antidote to our present situation with open governance (sociocracy) with a hands on process such as the Planetary Bricoleur (PB). Now once having achieved the balance we look to make a *splash* within the above balance by exploring and interactive relationship between TH and the PB. Once we take PB seriously we can progress our splash and by diving in at the deep end we find PB, principles, Manifesto

and a suggested Planetary Service badge. And finally we get a tad reflexive and so link back to CRAFT 8 on the Archaic Renaissance through Deep Craft with its links to Occupational Therapy as well as an attempt to counterpoint TEDX with CRAFTy vignettes – hands on, guide by the side, insitu 20mt vignettes produced in that hands on immediate savage style.

In the final group of exhibits, we have an exhibit looking at Early Childhood Development and espousing bricoleur play as a vital alternative to the existing NAPLAN type (test oriented) development happening in Australia at the present. In the final group of exhibits, we have an exhibit looking a Early Childhood Development and espousing bricoleur play as a vital alternative to the existing NAPLAN type (test oriented) development happening in Australia at the present.

Crucially we have an exhibit on becoming fully human as an expression of ‘the Dignity of Disability’. So much of TH is about deviance elimination, even in the womb, whereas here Meriel Stanger – a person with spastic quadriplegia and vision impairment who argues for this dignity as a human right!! She expresses this Dignity as a Bricoleur (accessible and inclusion) in designing, including her own home and Universally Design homes and public spaces/buildings. Salute Meriel!!

In addition, to top our issue off we have an expression of this right to be fully human rather than TransHuman in the Human Manifesto. And to top our issue off we have an expression of this right to be fully human rather than TransHuman in the Human Manifesto.

I hope you enjoy this issue and are interested enough to share the good news for 2018 with a hope of starting something larger and thereby contributing to a better world tomorrow for our children’s children.

Let me know what you think and ‘let’s do this!!’

Paul Wildman
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