

e-Deliverance

A PEACEFUL DEATH IS EVERYBODY'S RIGHT

Sept - Nov 2012

An Exit International publication • www.exitinternational.net

SICK 'N TIRED AT 35

JAY, DAVE & THEIR MUMS WANT TO GO TO SWITZERLAND

Jay Franklin, 35, has Hirschsprung's disease, a congenital condition involving a blockage of the large intestines due to improper muscle movement in the bowel.

Dave Bedford, 30, was a high-flying chef at Sydney's The Pier restaurant in Rose Bay when, on the way home from work he was involved in a car crash. Since 20 he has been a quadriplegic.

What now draws Dave and Jay together is that they both want to go to Dignitas to die.

Neither Jay nor Dave is terminally ill. Neither Jay nor Dave is old. Yet both want the choice of a peaceful death at a time of their choosing. The life stories of these two young men are tragic. Both have endured unimaginable suffering through no fault of their own. Both have mothers who have had to stand by and watch their children suffer. Both mothers want their sons to have the option to put an end to their suffering, if that is what they wish.

In early October, Dave and Jay spoke to Fairfax Health Editor, Julia Medew with *The Age* giving front-

page coverage to the story (see: <http://bit.ly/QoOFo8>). While Dave is fully insured and has access to funds to go to Switzerland, Jay has not been able to work (due to his illness) & he has no money. Since meeting each other through Exit, Dave has offered to help Jay travel to Switzerland with his mum Bertha. A very generous Melbourne Exit Member has offered to pick up any short fall.

Dave and Jay's applications for Dignitas are both now in process. Exit will report back on their next step in the December edition of *Deliverance*.

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You can hear Jay & Bertha Franklin's story at: <http://bit.ly/QoOFo8>

DLP WITCH HUNT

Described by Wikipedia as a conservative, Catholic-based, anti-communist political party which split from the Australian Labor Party in 1955, the Democratic Labor Party (DLP) has recently reformed into a reportedly more extreme religious entity than its predecessor. Its most recent political antics concern the persecution of Exit Director, Dr Philip Nitschke.

Paul Russell is a former Vice President of the conservative Australian Family Association and a prominent member of the DLP. Alex Schadenberg is the founder of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition (EPC) in Canada (the co-sponsor of the notification). In July, Russell & the EPC lodged a notification (complaint) with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency questioning whether Dr Nitschke is a 'fit and proper' person to be a doctor in Australia. AHPRA states:

'The issue currently identified ... about your conduct is that you have developed, marketed and are selling an apparatus solely used for the purpose of suicide and as such may not be a fit and proper person to hold registration as a medical practitioner'.

This accusation makes use of the catch-all phrase contained in s 144(c) of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (South Australia) Act 2010* which states:



*Canadian Alex Schadenberg (left)
Australian Paul Russell (right)*

WHO IS PAUL RUSSELL?

Paul Russell lives in Adelaide, has been married to 'Anne' for 26 years and has seven children, one of whom has Down Syndrome.

In the past, Paul has been employed in the Office of Family & Life in the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide. He writes regularly for the National Civic Council's publication, *News Weekly*.

In the 2010 Federal election, Russell occupied the No. 1 Senate position for the Democratic Labor Party. His campaigning work has seen him oppose human cloning, same-sex marriage and euthanasia.

(1) A voluntary notification about a registered health practitioner may be made to the National Agency on any of the following grounds—

(c) that the practitioner is not, or may not be, a suitable person to hold registration in the health profession, including, for example, that the practitioner is not a fit and proper person to be registered in the profession;

News that there was to be an investigation of Dr Nitschke only reached Exit when the political editor of *The Australian* newspaper, Dennis Shanahan, himself a well-known Catholic journalist phoned Philip to ask for comment. (Mr Shanahan has a long track record of receiving leaked information when it comes to Exit's activities - the importation of plastic bags in 2001 and news of the appeal by the Attorney General which led to the 2007 banning of *The Peaceful Pill Handbook* are two cases in point). The timing of this phone call strongly suggested a leak within AHPRA.

Why else would Paul Russell (and Dennis Shanahan) have known an investigation had been launched when Dr

DLP WITCH HUNT

Nitschke did not? In a subsequent letter to Dr Nitschke AHPRA stated that they advised Mr Russell on the 'same date that his notification had been sent to you'. They continued: 'Mr Russell advised the investigator [at AHPRA] that he had been approached by Dennis Shanahan from *The Australian* newspaper'. Out of the blue? Exit doubts it.

The DLP sponsored complaint to AHPRA means that the regulatory body currently has two separate investigations of Dr Nitschke underway. The first commenced in December 2011 and concerns the Therapeutic Goods Administration's Special Access Scheme and Dr Nitschke's alleged plan to lawfully import Nembutal as sleep medication. Despite AHPRA stating that Dr Nitschke would be provided with progress updates of this investigation, in the intervening 11 months, none has been forthcoming.

At the time of press, Dr Nitschke has sought legal representation to defend himself against the DLP/ Russell/ Euthanasia Prevention Coalition International accusations. Dr Nitschke has also raised with AHPRA and others the appropriateness of an independent government body being asked to arbitrate a political dispute.

How AHPRA Works

As background, AHPRA states the role of the Medical Board is to protect ... the community ... by investigating notifications and, when necessary, subsequently managing medical practitioners when: they have been found to have engaged in unprofessional conduct or professional misconduct ...'

Upon receiving a notification, AHPRA has the option to 'take no further action if the Board believes the notification is frivolous, vexatious, misconceived or lacking in substance'. In the case of the DLP/ Russell complaint, this was clearly deigned not to be the case.

AHPRA states:

'Typically, notifications are made by patients or their families, other health practitioners, employers and representatives of statutory bodies.'

One question to be asked is how the DLP, the Catholic Church and Paul Russell fit the picture of the above - are they stakeholders? No. In a secular and pluralist society such as Australia, what business is it of the Catholic Church what Dr Nitschke does? He is not breaking the law. And why should an ideological disagreement between so-called pro-life and pro-choice find traction in the jurisdiction of a medical regulatory authority. The activity in question is not about medicine. Nor is it about Philip's competence or character as a medical practitioner? Interestingly, Dr Nitschke's medical insurer expressly excludes all Exit activities. They do this - presumably - because Exit work is not medical and therefore not their concern.

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WHO IS ALEX SCHADENBERG & THE EUTHANASIA PREVENTION COALITION (EPC)?

Alex Schadenberg is the son of a couple described as Canada's pro life pioneers. He married a childhood sweetheart, has several children, one of whom has autism & says he approaches VE from a disability perspective.

In 1993, Schadenberg shifted his focus from abortion to euthanasia. Schadenberg too has been directly employed by the Catholic Church (in Canada). He is now privately funded to work full time on VE & assisted suicide prevention.

At the time Russell submitted his complaint to AHPRA, Schadenberg was undertaking a whistle-stop tour of Adelaide, Tasmania & New Zealand.

DWD Canada note that the EPC receives unrelenting negative press at home in Canada which paints them as extremists.

MAX DOG POPULARITY GROWS ANF CONFERENCE- MELBOURNE



Max Dog Nitrogen set-up

The advent of take-home Nitrogen cylinders has seen a renewed interest in the peaceful, reliable death which hypoxia can afford.

On the positive side of this approach is that the method is totally legal. One can lawfully acquire a Max Dog cylinder, make an Exit Bag and store both away in a cupboard as an insurance policy for the future.

Max Dog Nitrogen also has no expiry date giving it an infinite shelf life. And if leakage does occur the cylinder can be topped up, something which cannot be done with Balloon Time Helium cylinders.

If there is a down side associated with this approach it is that equipment of this nature is not for everyone. At Exit workshops the room can generally be divided in two. Half of Exit members say that they would not be seen dead (pardon the pun) with a plastic bag on their head. Others will say if it works and it's peaceful then why not.

Max Dog Brewing nitrogen cylinders can be ordered from sales@maxdogbrewing.com or phone 08-8121-5788.

35 LETTERS: UPDATE

Exit was very heartened to hear that over \$90,000 has been pledged towards the completion of Janine Hosking's forthcoming documentary about Melbourne writer Angelique Flowers.

Dr Nitschke says 'this documentary has the power to open the hearts and minds of the community and our politicians. Janine Hosking is a film maker *par excellence* and the fact that she has chosen voluntary euthanasia as her topic is to be applauded'.

'I have now watched the trailer to "35 Letters" several times and I can't help but be moved by the beauty of the film while at the same time angered by the pain and suffering that Angelique experienced and the impact of this on her sister Michelle and her brother Damian' he said.

To make a donation to the '35 Letters' project, please visit: <http://bit.ly/NUeu0R> - where the trailer can also be viewed.

Dr Philip Nitschke was pleased to accept an invitation to address the Australian Nursing Federation Conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre in September. In particular, he was heartened by the very strong support from the nursing/ midwifery profession; something which is a lot less prevalent when he speaks to doctors/ specialists.



Dr Philip Nitschke giving his keynote address



The 1000 strong audience at the Melbourne Convention Centre



Melbourne Chapter Coordinator Muriel Arnott at the Exit book stall at the conference

EXITORIAL

e-Deliverance

EXIT VS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

This month sees me gear up for Round One with the Catholic Church represented by Paul Russell & Alex Schadenberg. Paul Russell represents the Democratic Labor Party, the Australian Family Association, the Australian Christian Lobby, the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and so on. He says he is 'proudly pro family & pro life'. You get the picture.

For several years now, Russell has been trailing after me at VE debates all around the country. More recently, he has upped the ante, by contacting Queensland Exit Member, Dave Bedford, in his nursing home bed in Brisbane. Presumably, Russell thought he could talk Dave round to the Catholic way, and encourage him to live on. Did Paul Russell seriously think Dave would let Russell do his thinking for him?

It was only when Dave rang me to say he'd had contact from 'some wacko called Paul Russell' that the extent of Russell's quest became known. His stalking of Dave certainly sees a new low in the pro-life *modus operandi*.

The DLP/ Russell complaint about myself and Exit is now with the Medical Board. Should the issue go to a second



round, I will be establishing a legal fighting fund. Voluntary Euthanasia and Exit International are too important to allow the extreme right wing of the Catholic Church to win. My life is my choice and the likes of Paul Russell & Alex Schadenberg would do well to remember this.

CLEM JONES MISSING MILLIONS?

As if the attack of the DLP/ Euthanasia Prevention Coalition weren't enough of a distraction, last month's Exitorial saw me receive a letter from lawyers acting for the President of Dying with Dignity Victoria & the World Federation of Right to Die Societies, Mr Neil Francis. The letter demands that I apologise for asking where the Clem Jones Millions had gone. If I don't (and I haven't), a defamation lawsuit may follow.

While I don't expect everyone in the right to die movement to agree with me 100% of the time, the issue of how the Clem Jones' bequest is being spent is one of broad public interest. This is especially the case since the trustees have elected not to contribute to the remarkable and possibly paradigm-shifting documentary project of '35 Letters'.

I still can't think of any better legacy for Clem Jones to leave than to ensure '35 Letters' is completed and soon. The VE movement is lucky to have a film maker of Hosking's calibre taking a second look at voluntary euthanasia (her first project was 'Mademoiselle & the Doctor' in 2005). I am extremely heartened that many Exit members - the large majority of whom are normal men and women in the street - have seen fit to donate to Janine's project even if those who control the enormous wealth of Clem Jones have not.

Janine's documentary *will* be made and its impact on the breadth and scope of VE debate in Australia *will* be significant. On the issue of the defamation action, should it proceed, I am very grateful to those individual Exit members who have offered to fund a defence. I very much hope I don't need to draw on their largesse. It seems counter-productive and quite ridiculous to waste time and money bickering within the movement when my real political adversary - the church - has made it quite clear it means business.

Philip Nitschke

VANCOUVER BC PUBLIC MEETING & WORKSHOP

Exit will be holding a public meeting & workshop in Vancouver BC on Saturday 24 November at 1pm.

The meeting is especially timely given the recent court case and then untimely death of Motor Neurone Disease sufferer (also known as ALS), Gloria Taylor. Gloria's case which was decided last June saw the BC Supreme Court rule that the right to die with dignity is protected by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Court deemed that Gloria and others like her should be able to decide how much suffering to endure at the end of life, based on their own values and beliefs.

Unfortunately, the Canadian Government is now appealing the Court's decision and the matter has been set down for March 2013. Supported by The Farewell Foundation and the BC Civil Liberties Association - the same group who came to Exit's rescue in 2009 when the Vancouver Public Library cancelled Exit's booking - say they will continue to defend Gloria's case.

Workshop Registration Forms are available at:
<http://www.exitinternational.net/docs/WSCanNov12.pdf>



WHERE: Vancouver Unitarians, 949 49th Ave W
(Transit: EB w 49 Av FS Oak St)

WHEN: 1-5pm, Saturday 24 November 2012

The public meeting is free & open to all who support VE. The Workshop is closed for > 50 years &/ or seriously ill & of sound mind. Workshops are free for Exit Members.

HOW TO BOOK? Call 1-248-809-4435 or email
contact@exitinternational.net



IQ² @ MELBOURNE TOWN HALL WITH DR PHILIP NITSCHKE

Once again, Philip will be taking part in the IQ² debate on VE titled 'Euthanasia Should be Legalised'.

He will be joined on the affirmative by Victorian Health Services Commissioner Beth Wilson & University of Melbourne, Professor of Law Loane Skene.

On the opposing side will be the ABC's Religion & Ethics Reporter Scott Stephens, Professor Bill Silvester from the Austin Hospital & Dr Shakira Hussein from the University of Melbourne.

WHEN: Wednesday 7 November, 6.30 - 8.30pm

WHERE: Melbourne Town Hall (above)

HOW MUCH: Tickets: \$20, \$12 (concession)

HOW TO BOOK: Online at: <http://bit.ly/Rw1ore>
or by phone on: 03 9094 7800.

NEWS FROM EUROPE: UK & IRELAND

UK MEMBER DIES OF CHINESE NEMBUTAL

A nasty war of words has broken out between the family of UK MS sufferer Anne Veasey and Exit Director Dr Philip Nitschke over whether the Exit International website actively encouraged Anne to take her life with Nembutal she had imported from China.

A former company director, member of Mensa (the high IQ society) and a subscriber to *The Peaceful Pill eHandbook*, Anne bemoaned the fact that MS was robbing her of her life. She also resented the fact that she was forced to live in a nursing home, thereby losing her independence and dignity. Anne's suicide was well considered and well planned. According to Dr Nitschke it was a great pity that she felt unable to discuss her plans with her adult sons. In an email to Exit, Anne wrote:

I am coming up to the time when I shall have to go whilst I can still get it ready and administer the drug myself. (31st July). Nobody here (a nursing home) can help me so I've had to plan it myself for the middle of the night after the rounds by the night staff. Fortunately they're not too vigilant.'



Anne Veasey before the MS took hold

Dr Nitschke has said: 'Rather than lashing out and calling for Exit's website (exitinternational.net) to be closed down, Anne's lonely experience is exactly why the law on assisted suicide and euthanasia needs to change. Anne should not have been forced to die on her own and in secret. She should have been given every opportunity to live as long as she wanted to. Anne should have been able to ask for help when - in her opinion - her suffering was overwhelming her.'

After the inquest, Anne's sons Peter and Michael Twyman said "If someone gives you a loaded gun and then tells you how to use it - are they not culpable?" Dr Philip Nitschke has responded to the analogy between a loaded gun and Exit's website is ridiculous. He has urged the sons to respect their mother's actions and to remember her for the wonderful woman that she was. Read *The Telegraph's* report at: <http://bit.ly/SY9WJc>

TOM CURRAN LAUNCHES LANDMARK CASE

Like Anne Veasey, Marie Fleming has Multiple Sclerosis of the primary progressive kind. Unlike Anne, Marie and partner Tom Curran are going to court to try and win back some justice for Marie.

The Fleming/ Curran v Ireland case hinges on Ireland's 1993 law which decriminalised suicide. Lawyers for Marie will argue in Ireland's High Court that the law is discriminatory in that it prevents a disabled person from taking their own life without assistance from an able bodied person.

While Marie long ago qualified to use the Dignitas service in Switzerland, she has said she wants to die at home (don't we all?). Although Tom has said many times publicly that he will help Marie, even if this means going to jail, clearly there needs to be another way. As a leader within the Exit community Tom of course is well prepared for what may lie ahead. But because of the severity of Marie's disability - even a drink of Nembutal Marie could not prepare without Tom's assistance, both are in a difficult place.

When the legal action was launched last month, Tom and Marie had hoped to remain anonymous but that became increasingly difficult given Tom's increasing media work as Exit's European spokesperson.

If Exit members would like to send their well wishes to Tom and Marie - who were jointly given the Bob Dent Award by Exit in 2010 - Tom can be contacted at: tom@exitinternational.net



Tom & Marie in happier times

EXIT WORKSHOPS: AUSTRALIA

DECEMBER 2012

Canberra ACT

Saturday 1 December, 1 - 5pm

COTA Hall

Hughes Community Centre

Wisdom St

Hughes ACT



Melbourne VIC

Tuesday 4 December, 10am - 2pm

Murrumbeena Hall

26 Gerald St

Murumbeena

Melways Ref: 69-B7

Sydney NSW - NEW DATE

Tuesday 11 December, 1.30 - 4.30pm

Dougherty Community Centre

7 Victor St

Chatswood

Please note these are workshops only, no public meetings will be held. Registration forms are available on the Exit Homepage or by calling the Exit office on: 1300 10 3948 or email:

contact@exitinternational.net

LAX CHAPTER MEETING

Exit will be holding its inaugural California chapter meeting at **1pm on Tuesday 27 November**. Special guest will be Dr Fiona Stewart (co-author of *The Peaceful Pill eHandbook*). The meeting will be held:

Hilton Garden Hotel

2100 E Mariposa Ave, El Segundo (near LAX)

Free parking available

The meeting is open to current PPeH subscribers & Exit members only. Numbers are limited so RSVP essential. Email/ phone Bill LeBoeuf on: bill_leboeuf@yahoo.com or 714-960-9831.



LAX famous 'Theme Building'



Exit's new titration machine

PPEH OCTOBER 2012 UPDATE

Ever wondered how to test your powder or liquid? Ever wondered how pure that strange white powder or see-through liquid actually is? Don't want to take chances with the most important decision of your life? The October Update to *The Peaceful Pill eHandbook* has the answers to your questions. Chapter 15 outlines the step-by-step process for both qualitative (is it really Nembutal?) and quantitative (what is its purity?) testing. Also in the October update is news from China and seven, first-person testimonials on Nembutal from Mexico. Worried about the legal issues? We talk about them too.

The Peaceful Pill eHandbook is available from www.peacefulpillstore.com

DLP WITCH HUNT CONT



BA Santamaria - founder of Australia's conservative Democratic Labor Party

The expertise and knowledge that Dr Nitschke brings to Exit International has been developed over the past decade and a half of working in the voluntary euthanasia area. As Philip is the first to admit, the 'e' (euthanasia) word was never mentioned when he was at Sydney Medical School. And that is the whole point of Exit, dying need not be a medical matter.

If the Catholic Church does not agree with Exit, that is just fine. They can believe what they like. But they cannot and should not force their religion onto others.

In his complaint to AHPRA, Russell writes: *I would urge you to consider his workshops as a form of medical consultation, albeit with large numbers. It cannot be legitimately argued that he is simply presenting options; that he is not about advocacy.*

He continues: *We consider the work of Dr Nitschke and Exit International to be dangerous. We believe that their work serves to promote suicide as a reasonable solution and may even contribute to suicide ideation in the vulnerable.*

Russell concludes: *Although the author and the HOPE organisation [the 'Euthanasia Prevention Coalition'] would like to see Nitschke's work and Exit International shut down, we realize that this is not within the scope of AHPRA's investigation or remit. For some time I have been agonizing over what to do with the information presented in this submission ... I came to the conclusion that there may well be, already, vulnerable people dying by this nitrogen method. With this knowledge comes an obligation to act.*

The Future of AHPRA's Investigation

The DLP/ Russell submission could have been dismissed out of hand by the Medical Board as 'frivolous, vexatious, misconceived ... [and] lacking in substance'. That it has not been should be a matter of concern to all who uphold the separation of church and state and the pluralism that defines modern Australia.

As an independent government body, AHPRA should be beyond the reach of Church ideology *and* beyond infiltration by those of a particular religious standpoint. Developments on the investigation will be reported in the subsequent editions of this newsletter.

SEX PARTY: NT ELECTION

Keen to support a political party which supports Voluntary Euthanasia, Dr Philip Nitschke spent much of election day 2012 in Darwin handing out how-to-vote cards for the Australian Sex Party which was the only party to mention the 'e' word as part of their policy platform.

The Sex Party fielded 5 candidates (four of whom were women) and gained 0.8% of the vote in their first NT election.



Sex Party Candidate for Johnston, Krystal Metcalf (r) with Philip Nitschke & ASP Campaign Manager Seranna Shutt

NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND

EVANS MOTT TRIAL ENDS IN LENIENCY

Most people outside of New Zealand will not know the name Evans Mott. To the natives, however, this Exit Member is the latest of an ever-increasing number of Kiwis who find themselves before a Judge and Jury after they have assisted a person they love to die.

Evans Mott's troubles began when his wife Rosemary died at their home in Auckland in late December 2011. Rosie (like Anne Veasey and Marie Fleming) suffered from primary progressive MS which was robbing her of her independence and dignity. With no cure in sight and a life which was increasingly marked by tremors, paralysis and incontinence, Evans set about helping Rosie by creating a Nitrogen system which she would then be able to use once Evans had left the house (as a legal safeguard).

At his trial in September 2012 Evans pleaded guilty to assisting the suicide of his wife. He received no conviction and a suspended sentence. This is in stark contrast to Brisbane school teacher Merin Nielsen who, earlier this year, pleaded not guilty to helping Exit Member Frank Ward die in 2009. Nielsen received a three year jail term (with a non-parole period of 9 months).

As in other countries, the issue of voluntary euthanasia bubbles away in New Zealand with a number of attempts at passing legislation. To date, the law remains unchanged despite the fact that assisted suicide keeps coming before the courts. Before the Evans Mott case, Sean Davison became a Kiwi *cause celebre* when he changed his plea mid-trial and was found guilty of counselling and procuring his mother's suicide. Davison's mother, Dunedin resident Patricia Elizabeth Davison (a retired 85 year old GP), had long begged her son to help her die. When he agreed, a lengthy court case pursued with Sean eventually receiving both a conviction and five-months home detention in Dunedin in late 2011.

Exit International's Dr Fiona Stewart debated Otago University's Professor Grant Gillett in the *New Zealand Herald* on 14 September. The opinion editorials can be read at:

<http://bit.ly/T69kQ1>

NZ PRIME MINISTER SHOWS LEADERSHIP

New Zealand Conservative Party Prime Minister, John Key, supports voluntary euthanasia. In a radio interview in August 2012 he said:

... If I had terminal cancer, I had a few weeks to live, I was in tremendous amount of pain - if they just effectively wanted to turn off the switch and legalise that by legalising euthanasia, I'd want that.

Key went further saying 'I think there's a lot of euthanasia that effectively happens in our hospitals'. While the initial response to such frankness (almost unheard of from a politician) was stunned silence, it didn't take long before the medical profession and others (eg. the Church) were putting the boot into Key saying that as a politician he didn't understand the complexity of the medical situation in hospitals today.

Applauding Key's frankness, Exit Director Dr Philip Nitschke said he could recall 'no precedent' for comments of this nature.

'Everyone knows that slow euthanasia (where an opioid such as morphine is gradually upped to lethal levels) goes on in institutions everyday. The patients and their families know and the medical profession knows it. What is most surprising about Key's comments is that he has been prepared to utter this taboo state of affairs out loud.'

cont: P. 11



New Zealand Prime Minister John Key

NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND

NZ'S NEW 'END OF LIFE CHOICES' BILL

The day following Key's enlightened comments (24 August), Sinead Donnelly, the chairwoman of Australian and New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine refuted the claims stating '[w]e never practise euthanasia; euthanasia is the deliberate ending of life, and is illegal and unethical'. Sandy Macleod, clinical adviser to Hospice New Zealand, followed saying 'euthanasia does not occur in our hospitals, full stop'.



Labour spokesperson on Health & 'End of Life Choices Bill' initiator: MP Maryan Street

While Key initially stood by his comments, by day four, the hammering of him by experts in the palliative care/ hospice industries, saw the Prime Minister change his tune. He admitted that his language had been 'a bit sloppy', something the media would report as Key backing down. While the more cynical could be forgiven for thinking the country is back to square one, Labour MP Maryan Street's 'End of Life Choices Bill' shows light at the end of the tunnel.

While history shows there have been many VE/ Assisted Suicide Bills before the Parliaments of the western world, few have been as progressive as that of Maryan Street. Dr Philip Nitschke calls it 'the most sensible piece of VE legislation' that he has ever seen. He says what marks the Bill is the following:

- Not limited to terminally ill but takes account of those who have 'an irreversible physical or mental medical condition that, in the person's view, renders his or her life unbearable' &
- Allows medical assistance to die to be included in one's End of Life Directive.

KIWI EXIT CHAPTER NEWS

The Bill is currently one of a number to be considered in the Members' Bills Ballot which allows New Zealand's Parliament to consider legislation put forward by any MP, not simply by the Government of the day. Watch this space!

AUCKLAND NEWS: The Auckland chapter meets every 3 months. The next meeting is Tuesday 4 December. Contact Fern on 09-416-0004.

WELLINGTON NEWS: The Wellington chapter is a lively group who meet every 3 months at a member's home. Their next meeting is Sunday 11 November. Contact Suzy on 04-566-4893.

NELSON NEWS: The Nelson Chapter meets once every six weeks. Earlier this year the group sponsored the public meeting on VE which led their local MP, Maryan Street, to propose the 'End of Life Choices' Bill. Their next meeting is Tuesday 13 November. Contact Hanne on 03-543-2602.

VALE - PAULA WESTOBY

In mid September, Exit was saddened to hear of the death of Dunedin Chapter Coordinator, Paula Westoby. Paula reportedly died 'peacefully in her sleep' at home on. Paula was well known to all at Exit. She was a true renegade & one-of-a-kind! Her enthusiasm & energy in the VE movement will be very missed. Read the report of her passing at: <http://bit.ly/RDSrN7>
Read the report of her tattoo at:

<http://bit.ly/RaAzs2>

Mum thrived on death ... it was the only thing that kept her going," Jonathan Westoby [son] told the Otago Daily Times.



Paula proudly displaying her 'DNS' tattoo

PEACEFULPILLSTORE.COM

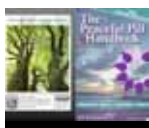
Phone: 1-248-809-4435



The Peaceful Pill Handbook (2012 print ed)

Within US: US\$33 (includes shipping)

Rest of World : US\$48 (includes shipping)



The Peaceful Pill eHandbook (online edition)

Price: US\$85 (incl 24 months of updates)

INSTANT ACCESS - Updated 6x year



I Bequeath the Python

(a fun look at funeral planning)

Price: US\$10 (exc shipping)



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)



PEACEFULLPILL.COM WEBSITE*

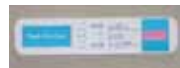
Exit Gas Flow Controls + Plumbers Tape + Plastic Tube- ship as one unit

Price: Australia USS\$151.70

(US\$143 + \$8.70 shipping (inc gst)

Rest of World: US\$180

(US\$140 & \$40 DHL express courier)



Exit Drug Test Kit

Price: Australia US\$33 (incl gst \$3 & shipping)

Rest of World: US\$35 (incl shipping)



Max Dog Brewing

PO Box 400, Adelaide SA 5001

Email: sales@maxdogbrewing.com

Phone: 08-8121-5788

Join Exit International

I wish to join/ rejoin/ donate to Exit International
(12 Months: Aust - AUD\$110 inc GST \$10; (couples \$165 inc GST \$15); US/Canada US\$100; UK/ Irel £62/ €73)
Life membership - \$1000

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

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

Post/Zipcode _____ Country _____

eMail @ _____

Phone _____

I am paying \$ _____ for _____

Payment Options: Visa /Mastercard _____

Credit Card No _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Expiry Date _____ / _____



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www.peacefulpill.com