

Dear Delegate,

ADDENDUM 1

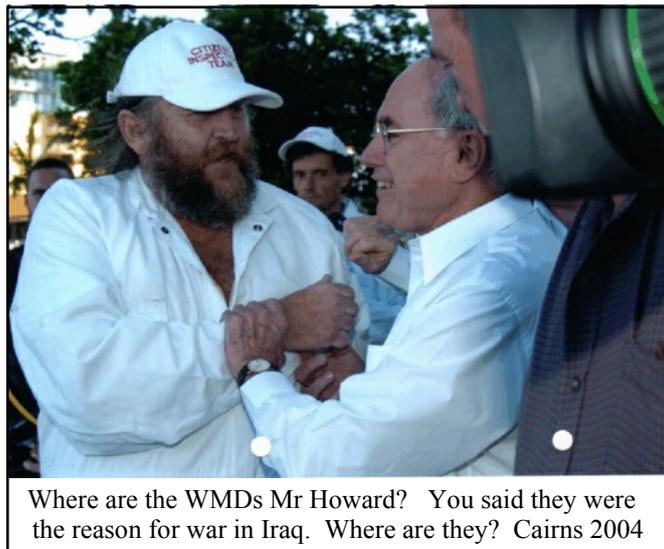
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Complaint against Mayor Brad Carter, CEO Evan Pardon, and the Rockhampton Regional Council.

BRYAN LAW'S CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES ARE POLITICAL

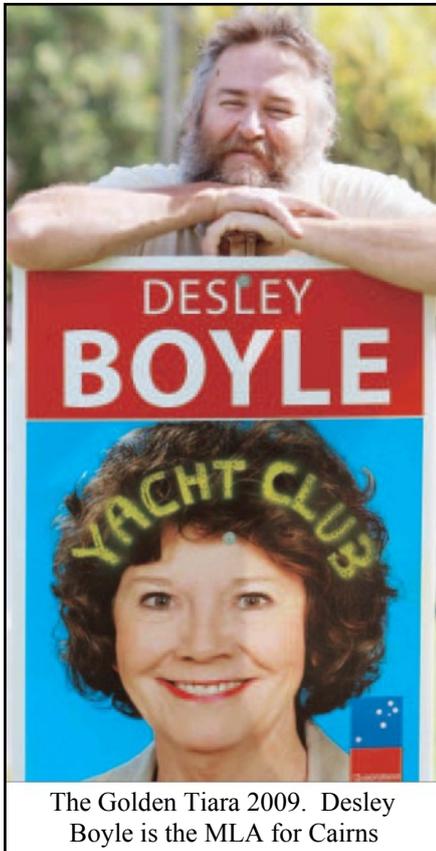
1. At paras 33 to 35 of Rockhampton Regional Council's response to my complaint the respondents dispute that my activities were political. They cite law to the effect that whether behaviour is political or not ought be determined by an objective test of reality.
2. I concur with the idea of an objective test, and offer the following material which clearly satisfies such a test.
3. My actions in Rockhampton and Yeppoon in winter of 2011 were without doubt part of a single, coherent, and legitimate political campaign. They were political actions, based on distinct and dearly held political beliefs.
4. The evidence which supports this conclusion includes the following:

ESTABLISHED PUBLIC PERCEPTION IN CAIRNS



5. In Cairns, the location of my permanent residence since 1993, I'm widely recognised as a political activist.
6. Representative of the evidence detailing this recognition is a story published on Cairns Blog in December 2009. The story celebrates something of a media blitz I'd arranged for the period just before the silly season. <http://www.cairnsblog.net/2009/12/bryan-law-conned-us-all.html>
7. It refers to three successful media stories, and provides links to two of them:
8. <http://www.cairnsblog.net/2009/12/bryan-outlaws-identity-disclosed-judge.html>
A satire based on one of my appeals to the Queensland District Court, before Judge Milton Griffin. About wilful damage to election corflutes, arising from a political campaign using civil disobedience. (Cairns Blog circulation 3-5,000).
9. http://www.cairns.com.au/article/2009/12/12/81615_blog-soap-box.html
A column published in the Weekend Post about politics, civil disobedience, and the Cairns Yacht Club. The column explains the political use of civil disobedience. (Weekend Post circulation 109,000).

10. Published only in print was a column in the Sunday Mail by journalist Gavin King about me and my politics. Gavin argued pro and con regarding my practice of civil disobedience. (Sunday Mail circulation 500,000)
11. I can offer many, many more examples where my political practices are recognised as such by established authorities and given significant distribution. I am known in Cairns (and now in Rockhampton) for my creative political campaigning. Some of the stories I've been involved in have gone national and international.



The Golden Tiara 2009. Desley Boyle is the MLA for Cairns

PAST POLITICAL PARTICIPATION (including electoral participation).

12. As part of my political campaigning in Cairns I ran for election as Mayor in 2004 and received 6.7% of the primary vote. This amounts to several thousand primary votes.
13. Standing for office, voting in an election, and expressing support or opposition to a candidate for election are the fairly narrow electoral rights that are recognised by the electoral act. I regularly exercise those rights.
14. At the same time, political rights are broader than electoral rights, because elections are a sub-set of politics. Among other things politics includes discussion, debate, advocacy, lobbying, building organisations and campaigning to mobilise opinion into action. I am regularly involved in all those things.
15. Issues I've been involved in as a resident of Cairns include: Daintree Powerlines, Skyrail, Cape York Land Use, Native title and reconciliation, US warship visits, anti-war, anti-militarism, anti-racism, Cairns Yacht Club, City Place, Free Speech and democratic rights.

16. **Nationally** my key contribution has been to specialise in small group nonviolent direct action, including direct intervention and civil disobedience. In this field I've been cutting edge on practices of transparency and police/security liaison.

17. In December 2005 I was one of the Pine Gap 4 who broke into the top secret area of Pine Gap, using some of my techniques, to conduct a citizens inspection. That action and its aftermath made legal history in Australia and led to the Commonwealth Parliament in January 2009 amending the Defence (Special Undertakings) Act of 1952.

<http://www.globalcollab.org/publications/essays/apsnet/policy-forum/2008/goldflam-satellites/>

18. Since then I've participated in national discussions about, and further demonstrations of, small group interventionary nonviolence. Perhaps the finest expression of these actions in the world today is the "ploughshares actions" initiated by Phil and Dan Berrigan in the USA in 1980.

<http://www.plowshares.se/aktioner/plowcronology80-84.shtml>

19. "Ploughshares" is a globally recognised and respected category of nonviolent action against war. In its 31 year history there has never been an injury, a fatality, or any dangerous episode of riot, affray, arson or explosion of any kind. The principles and rules of nonviolent ploughshares actions rules out any action that would endanger any person other than the actor.



20. **Internationally** the Pine Gap inspection provided inspiration for a group of three Catholic workers in New Zealand who deflated a Kevlar Radome at a satellite spy base in Waihopai New Zealand in April 2008. I was in contact as they prepared for their action. In March 2010 I was invited to witness their trial in Wellington, and I ended up reporting on the trial for on-line news agency scoop.nz.
<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/HL1003/S00206.htm>

21. For more than five years, between December 2005 and July 2011, I worked at, discussed, refined, and helped develop an intention to carry out a transparent ploughshares action in Australia, perhaps during Exercise Talisman Sabre. This blog story details some of my thinking about the lessons of Pine Gap and Waihopai – and finds that:

“By choosing targets such as airplanes, ships, tanks etc (less secret, more direct weapons systems/components), and by majorly disabling said piece of equipment, it may yet be possible to get a necessity defence in front of an Australian or New Zealand jury”.

http://www.cairnspeacebypeace.org/?page_id=952

This work is at the heart of my activities in Rockhampton in May, June and July 2011.



Waihopai Ploughshares 2008

Bonhoeffer 4 2009

TS11 Action Map

ACTIVITIES IN ROCKHAMPTON 2011

22. As things turned out I chose Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011 as the context, and Rockhampton airport as the location for a ploughshares action in Australia.

23. On 29 September 2010 I sent a letter to the ADF alerting them to my intentions. I sent the same material to the security manager of Rockhampton airport, and through my peace networks.
http://www.cairnspeacebypeace.org/?page_id=935

24. Right from this beginning, the intentions, political objectives, and ethical standards of the proposed action were set and publicly announced:

“The time to end this war has well and truly passed. The war in Afghanistan is an offence to Christian morality, and can no longer be tolerated. TS11 is an integral part of this war, and cannot be allowed to continue unhindered. I and my colleagues are prepared to risk our lives, and sacrifice our liberty, to oppose, frustrate, and bring to an end Australian participation in this unjust, immoral war.

We intend to treat all human beings with complete respect, and treat the security forces with honesty and open-ness in our actions. Around the world, and at Pine Gap in 2005, security systems have failed to prevent strong action by committed peace workers. I am confident that we'll be able to disable a US aircraft if they continue to use the civilian airport at Rockhampton”.

25. The idea of a ploughshares action was further promoted through the networks, and written about in my blog between October 2010, and the time I moved to Rockhampton in May 2011.
http://www.cairnspeacebypeace.org/?page_id=438

26. I've created a separate document that provides a chronological narrative of my campaign activities in Rockhampton between 19 April and 9 July 2011. That document references most of the media coverage that occurred over that time. It also lists photographs and other documentary evidence. That material goes in detail to the heart of my complaint about political discrimination.
27. This document is meant to establish the legitimate political nature of my activities. My activities in Rockhampton are consistent with, and an extension of my political activities in Cairns and elsewhere.
28. In May, June, and July of 2011 I published several pieces that documented my campaign in Rockhampton, and analysed/evaluated how things were going.

http://www.cairnspeacebypeace.org/?page_id=879 (May)

http://www.cairnspeacebypeace.org/?page_id=889 (8 June)

http://www.cairnspeacebypeace.org/?page_id=956 (20 June)

http://www.cairnspeacebypeace.org/?page_id=1128 (3 July)



On any reading of this material, or of the more detailed material in the chronology, the objective political nature of my activities is obvious and undeniable.

PERCEPTIONS IN ROCKHAMPTON

29. On my own observation, supported by substantial objective evidence, it's clear that the media, the Councillors, the MLA Robert Swarton, and most members of the Rockhampton public also recognised my activities as part of a political campaign.
30. For one piece of objective evidence, I did a search of on-line reports from the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin that featured me and my activities, and then tabulated the tag words used by the sub-editor to describe key features of the story.
31. Chronology of on-line reports by the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin about "Bryan Law" between 20 April 2011 and 21 July 2011, Chronology shows the "tag cloud" used to describe key elements of each story.

20 April 2011	anti-war activist , bryan law , rockhampton airport , usar
21 April 2011	Anti-War Activist , Bryan Law , Sabotage , Talisman Saber , Us Military Helicopter
24 May 2011	Activist , Bryan Law , Rockhampton
9 June 2011	Army , Peace , Protest , Talisman Sabre 2011
10 June 2011	Activists , Anti-War Protest , Rockhampton
14 June 2011	Council , Police , Police Called , Protest ,
15 June 2011	anti-war activist , brad carter , bryan law
17 June 2011	Anti-War Protestors , Police , Rockhampton , Yeppoon
21 June 2011	Arrest , Political Activist
23 June 2011	Bryan Law , Mayor'S Talisman Sabre Gala , Pilbeam Theatre , Rockhampton Regional Council , Us 7Th Fleet
9 July 2011	Bryan Law , Peace Activist , Talisman Sabre
21 July 2011	bryan law , military , protests , rockhampton airport
21 July 2011	Bryan Law , Military , Protests

Bryan Law (8)

Anti-war activist (3)

Activist (2)

Political activist (1)

Peace Activist (1)

Peace (1)

Protest (4)

Anti-war protest (2)

Rockhampton Airport (3)

Rockhampton (3)

Rockhampton regional Council (1)

Council (1)

Brad Carter (1)

Yeppoon (1)

Army (1)

Military (2)

Talisman sabre (3)

US military helicopter (1)

US 7th Fleet (1)

Police (2)

Police Called (1)

Arrest (1)

Sabotage (1)

Usar (1)

32. There are 13 on-line articles published between 20 April and 21 July. In the associated tag field there are 8 references to my name, and 14 references to my role as an activist and protestor.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Activism>

*“**Activism** consists of intentional efforts to bring about [social](#), [political](#), [economic](#), or [environmental](#) change. Activism can take a wide range of forms from writing letters to newspapers or politicians, political campaigning, [economic activism](#) such as [boycotts](#) or preferentially patronizing businesses, rallies, [street marches](#), [strikes](#), [sit-ins](#), and [hunger strikes](#).*

Some activists try to persuade people to change their behavior directly, rather than to persuade governments to change laws. The [cooperative movement](#) seeks to build new institutions which conform to cooperative principles, and generally does not lobby or protest politically”.

33. There are many more examples available which show the breadth and depth of this perception in Rockhampton.

DOH! THE ISSUES ARE POLITICAL

34. The issues on which I campaigned are of great political interests to Australians, their parliament, and their social and political institutions. Our war in Afghanistan and our military alliance with the USA are prominent features in our Parliament, political institutions, and media - all the time.

35. CONCLUSION

36. According to any objective measure I ran a political campaign in Rockhampton, and all the activities referenced by Rockhampton Regional Council as their reasons for banning my attendance at the dinner were political activities.

Bryan Law
25 August 2011

Law catches up with protestor

21st June 2011

Tags: arrest, political activist

POLICE yesterday arrested political activist Bryan Law in Rockhampton's East St for refusing to comply with a move-on order.

Witnesses said the controversial visitor, who is here campaigning against next month's military exercise Talisman Sabre at Shoalwater Bay, put on quite a show for onlookers. The arrest occurred about 12.45pm on East St.

It's understood complaints were made about Mr Law, who has been permitted to speak in public at specified times.

Late yesterday Mr Law said he was charged with contravening a direction and had been directed to appear in court on July 8.



Peace protestor Bryan Law

Sharyn O'Neill

Poll

Have you had enough of Bryan Law's antics?

You have already voted.

Yes	48%
No	50%
Undecided	1%

This is not a scientific poll. The results reflect only the opinions of those who chose to participate.

Related links

- > [Anti-war activist disrupts meeting](#)
- > [Campaigner wants a war of words](#)
- > [Activists stage anti-war protest](#)
- > [Protesters swamp public meeting](#)