

**Buy,
Use,
Discard!**

David Spraggs

Why

Something's going wrong
With the singer and the song
And the music isn't gentle anymore
there's a mist across the moon
And the sun's too hot at noon
And the house is dark behind the broken door
Where the flowers used to grow
Withered leaves are hanging low
And the constant shadow lies across the floor
there's a strange and empty sky
Where the wild birds used to fly
And I never tasted bitter rain before
And will the grass be gone from underneath
the sky
Will the golden flower wither soon and die
Will the fire burn out the land
And the sea fill-up with sand
Will the last word ever spoken be why?
Will the last word ever spoken be why?

Someone's lost the plan
For the brotherhood of man
And no one's trying to find it anymore
And the winds become a sigh
For those who hate and those who die
And the waves are black and slow along the
shore
And will the grass be gone from underneath the
sky
Will the golden flower whither soon and die
Will the fire burn out the land
And the sea fill-up with sand
Will the last word ever spoken be why?
Will the last word ever spoken be why, why,
why?
Will the last word ever spoken be ?.WHY?

Roger Whittaker

- What is it about - that we have a “need” to purchase more and more”?
- I often visit services and schools, and the staff mention to me either “how well they are resourced” or “that they never get anything.”
- In their “eyes and thinking” the quality of a service often comes down to the amount of “stuff” they have.

- This consumerism in ECE is typified by teachers and a manager looking through catalogues with children (interesting to note that these same catalogues would cause serious harm to children if they fell on them).
- The managers / teachers and children look through the glossy images and desire to purchase some of the content.
- Why?

- What fundamental changes need to occur in your place to allow children the time and space to truly be connected with this planet and inherit it in a way in which their children may still be able to live here?

‘ we aim to reduce our impact on the environment where possible - through a focus on renewable energy and recycled products... ’



Its got to be more that
a wormery and a
gladwrap policy





- Many services want a stream for the natural look and sound of running water, for water play
- What's the issue with this in regard children learning to reduce and what ideas do you have to support children learning to conserve?



Nature operates in a circular path.

- There are many cycles in our world (life/death, eat/sleep, etc). It is a system of self-perpetuating circles optimally in balance with each other.
- When the balance within a circle or between circles is disturbed, nature will take steps to correct the imbalance.
- “Everything is related to everything else in our universe”.
- It is the concept that all things return to the Earth in some fashion after consumption. If they return in a natural (within the circle) state there is no problem. If they cycle back in an unnatural state there is a problem.



SPRING



SUMMER



AUTUMN



WINTER

Consumption in
and of itself is not
bad.

Consumer
diarrhoea is.

Mt Hikurangi, The first place in the world each day to receive Te Ra's energy giving light

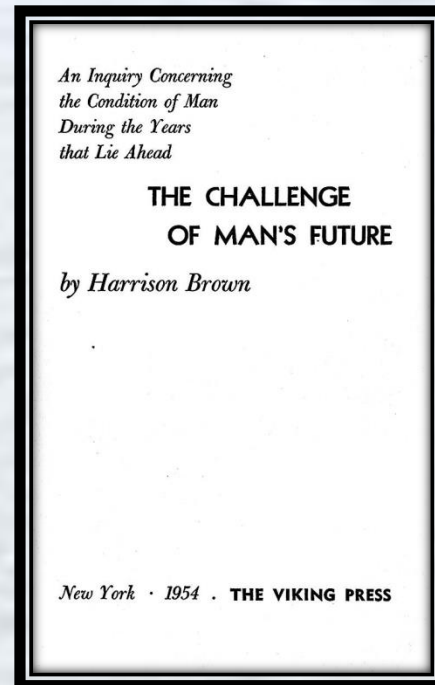


Ultimately all wealth comes from nature. We consume something from nature by using energy. Ultimately all energy comes from the sun.

- Western Style consumer lifestyles are highly resource and energy intensive. Are our current lifestyles sustainable into the future?
- We have created these life styles based on cheap fossil fuels
- We must leave consumer lifestyles before they leave us, for if we wait for them to be taken from us by force of circumstances, the transition beyond them will not be a blessing but a curse.

- Environmental scientists assert that, regardless of whether consumerism is socially desirable, in the long run it is physically impossible to maintain.
- The math is simple: Even at a fraction of 1% per year growth in consumption, all of earth's resources eventually would be used up. The consumer economy also produces an unending variety of wastes, of which water, air and soil can absorb only so much before planetary life-support systems begin unravelling.

- In his 1954 book "[The Challenge of Man's Future](#)," physicist Harrison Brown envisioned devastating social and environmental consequences from the relentless growth of human population and resource consumption. Brown even managed to foresee the current climate crisis.



Let me point out just a few examples of strange thinking in this regard.

- We use water to clean ourselves and our things. How many more cars, dishes, laundry loads can be asked of the water circle?



Mt Te Aroha

- It is well known that some of the richest farmland is located at the alluvial fans (deltas) of rivers.

Poverty Bay flats



- Yet at the mouth of all major rivers around the world you see major cities.

Gisborne City



- Cities are not where we grow food. How much more prime agricultural land can be taken for houses and office buildings?
- How much more can the food circle take?

So why do we consumer this way?

- So if by slowing down and thinking about **refusing** and **reusing** we start to fundamentally shift the perspective of what we do each day.

- Many of you work in ECE's where there is an "endless" supply of materials.
- The children want water in the sand pit, so the well-meaning teacher turns on the tap and it runs and runs.
- The child has used a piece of paper and goes to the shelf for more. There is no more on the shelf and so a teacher goes to the storeroom and gets more.
- The last dribble of paint is used up and so again the teacher goes and gets more.

- Its about Reduce, reuse, recycle and **refuse**
- And to curb the consumer driven model we have to start working on models of “energy in equal’s energy out”

- If they had to create their own dyes and paints and brushes (energy in) how would this contribute to the slowing down and learning more in the process (energy out) than the outcome?
- In ECE a long time ago we used to say that the learning is about the process not the product.
- It might be useful to remember that more time used in the process would then equal more learning.

Energy in energy out systems

Rain is collected off roof



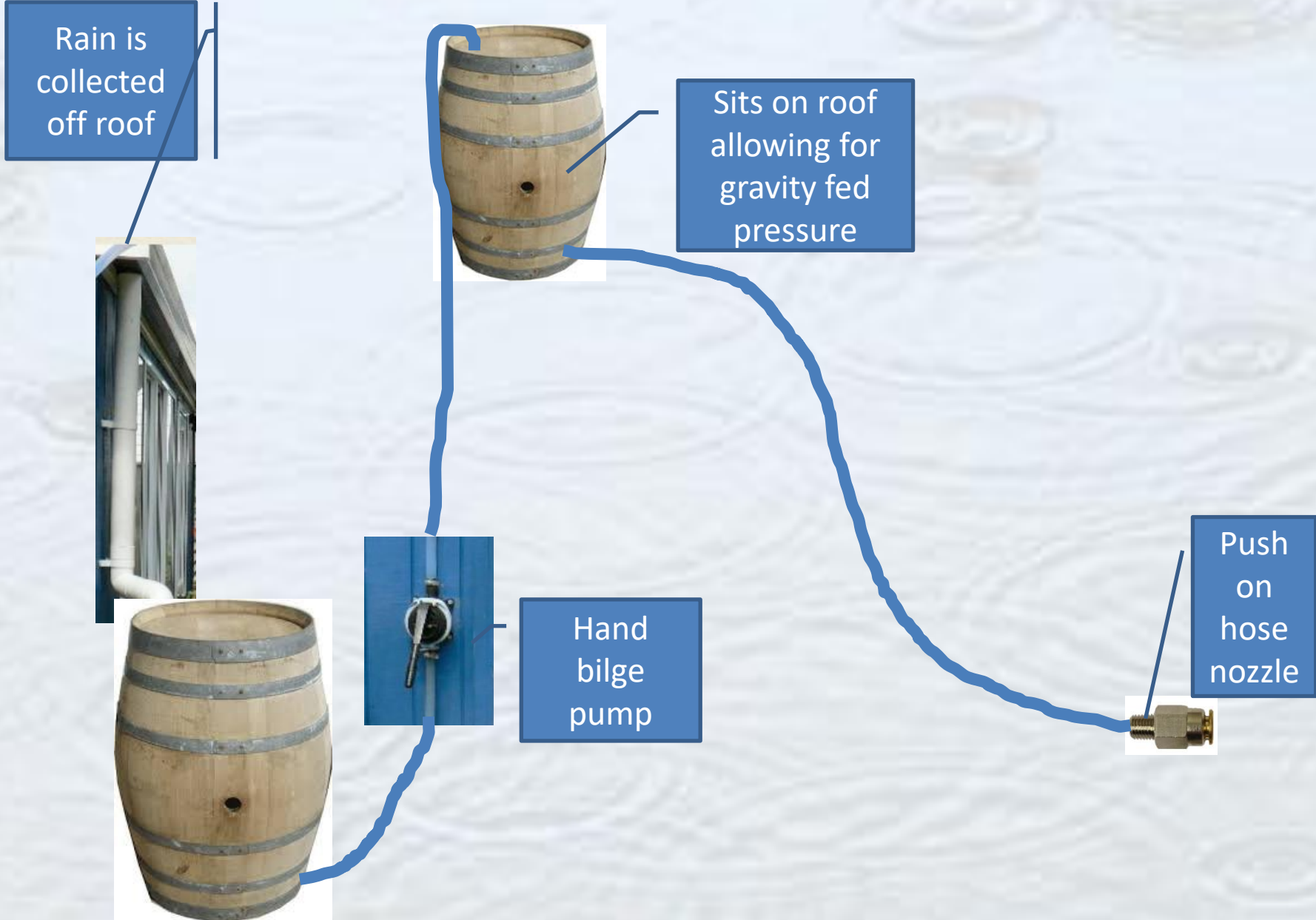
Sits on roof allowing for gravity fed pressure



Hand bilge pump



Push on hose nozzle



- We are so used to instant and now that we have forgotten the pleasure we once received when we had to wait a whole year before we could taste the succulence of a red ripe strawberry. Now it's flown to us and processed so we can have the look of strawberries (in my opinion not the taste) all year round.
- We have to fundamentally change what we are thinking through within our services.
- So

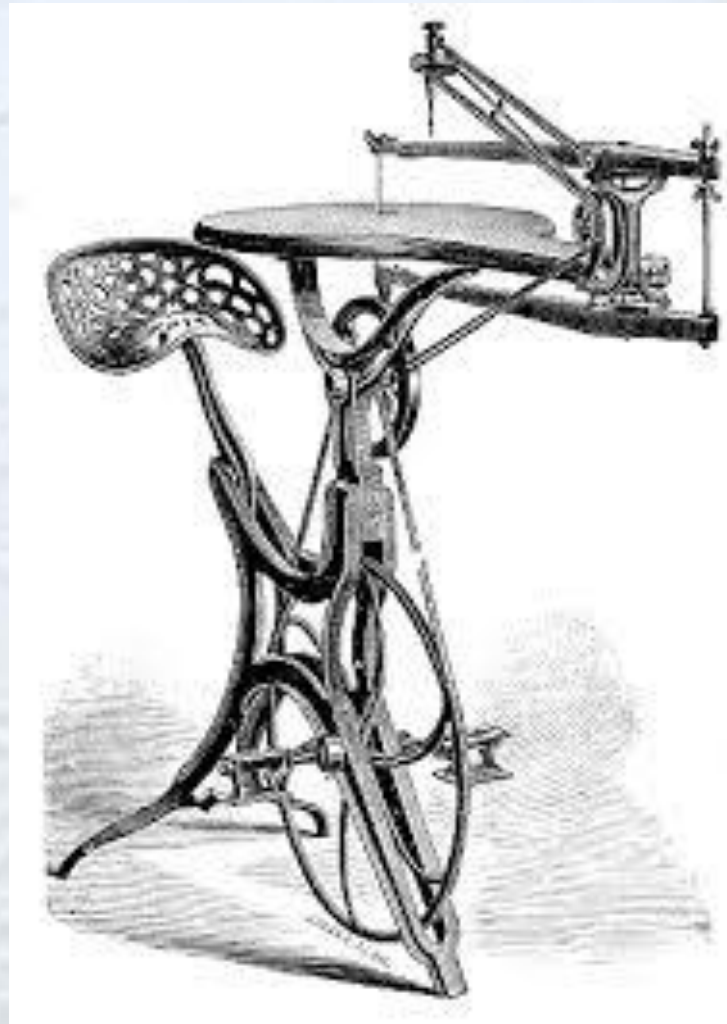
- In small groups have a conversation about
- In your opinion what is it that we provide for children that capable competent children could provide for themselves with support
- In your opinion what is it that you currently do for children that capable competent children could do for themselves with support



**I'M NOT LAZY, I'M
ON ENERGY SAVING MODE.**

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Pedal powered drill



Pedal powered lighting dynamo



“
The use of solar
energy has not been
opened up because the oil
industry does not
own the sun.
”

Ralph Nader

Solar cooker



Portable solar panels



A bike pump



Laptop table that charges the laptop



Treadle Sewing machine



Induction charging torch



A pedal powered washing machine



Hand powered washing machine



Push mower



Water Harvesting



Note that the resources used at your place should make sense and have a connection to your place

We produce Chardonnay

Barrels make sense.

They don't make sense in Auckland CBD

new 2x4

original pallet with pieces added from the rest of the pallet to make a complete surface



Original pallet

new 2x4

new 2x4



Driftwood cabinet



So your challenge

- What can you reuse re cycle and refuse today and tomorrow and the next day?
- How will you bring conserving aspects to your programme so that children learn to live on this planet



Turn it up

The Alan Parsons Project
Definitive Album

Turn it up

It's no good believing in somebody else, if you can't believe in yourself
You give them the reason to take all the power and wealth
It's no good you trying to sit on the fence, and hope that the trouble will pass
Cause sitting on fences can make you a pain in the arse

If there's something you got to believe in then the message must get through
So don't just sit in silence, when you know what to do

Turn it up, turn it up, make it louder
Turn it up, turn it up, make it louder

There's no conversation if nobody speaks and nothing gets done in the end
There's no confrontation when fantasy makes you its friend
So much injustice, too many lies, you don't have to look very far
But nothing will change if we leave things the way that they are
If there's something you vow to believe in, then the message must get through
So don't just sit in silence, when you know what to do

Turn it up, turn it up, make it louder
Turn it up, turn it up, make it louder

If there's something you got to believe in then the message must get through
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