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Bi-annual report on indigenous, ecological and anti-capitalist resistance in the occupied territory known as Australia



Melbourne - Solidarity with the Ravenhall Remand Centre rioters!

30 June - Hundreds of prisoners at the Metropolitan Remand Centre in Ravenhall have rioted in response to a state-wide ban on smoking in all of the state of Victoria's prison hell-holes. The prisoners attacked screws, lit fires, rammed an exit door, torched prison vehicles and stormed a control room during what the cops are describing as one of the biggest prison riots in recent history. All prison staff were evacuated from the prison and heavily armed police goon squads entered the prison deploying tear gas in an attempt to suppress the riot. The riot began at around 12:20pm on June 30th and continued until 3 am on July 1 when the cops finally suppressed the uprising. There are reports from the corporate scum media that several prisoners were injured in the riot and that at least 2 screws got battered. As a result of the riot the entire prison system in Victoria is now on complete lockdown.

In response to the riot a snap action was held at a traditional First Nations meeting spot in the inner-city Melbourne suburb of Collingwood by First Nations Liberation (FNL) and their supporters in solidarity with the rioting prisoners. In the state of Victoria, First Nations peoples only make up 1% of the population but make up 30% of Victoria's prison population – this over-representation of First Nations people in the prison system is a direct result of the unceasing genocide that has been waged against First Nations people since the arrival of the colonists in the territories now commonly referred to as Australia in 1788. Afterwards a small group of anarchists painted graffiti on a nearby wall in solidarity with the rioters.

Solidarity and strength to the Ravenhall rioters who kept the screws and heavily armed cops at bay for almost 15 hours armed only with makeshift weapons, their fists and a fierce will to resist!

Fire To The Prisons! Destroy The Prison Society!



FTP



V.

FuckThePoliceFightThePowerFreeThePrisonersFireToPatriarchy

Welcome to the fifth issue of FTP zine, our biannual report on anti-colonial, anti-state resistance, compiled within occupied Cadigal territory.

Like previous issues we have chosen to highlight acts of resistance to the Australian state and its control of this territory, such as attacks on its police, its prisons, its monuments and its schools.

The entirety of the content in this publication was found as public information online, and later compiled for this zine. Nothing here is the original content of those who may be responsible for this project.

The contents include communiqués, media releases, photos, posters and leaflets which have been found on radical blogs. The remaining content has been culled from the websites of corporate newspapers and TV stations. Many texts have been condensed for reasons of space.

We make no claims to the intentions behind the unclaimed actions. We have simply chosen to highlight acts which open possibilities for a more libertarian, less polluted future. Actions which, if generalised, have the potential to fundamentally disrupt and weaken the Australian state and its ability to govern.

The actions and opinions expressed in this zine do not necessarily reflect the perspectives or attitudes of any other individual or group mentioned in this publication.

This report is only partial as most acts of resistance are not reported in the mainstream press, and most people who stand up to state authority don't write self aggrandising communiqués of their actions.

This magazine is in no way a for-profit publication. We encourage the printing, sharing, translating, and widespread distribution of this magazine by anyone with resources to do so.

- July 2015

ftpzine.wordpress.com

Darwin: Teenage prison riot leaves one guard injured and \$50,000 worth of damage to the Don Dale Juvenile Detention Centre.

4 Jan - NT Police were called to the prison about 6:00pm on Sunday after the teenagers armed themselves with broken glass and poles.

The teenagers smashed windows and doors in the prison's G-block before setting it on fire in the 40-minute rampage.

A toaster was reportedly used to set fire to a mattress.

One of the teenagers managed to get onto the roof of the prison, but the group eventually surrendered after a prison security unit responded.

NT Police Duty Superintendent Del Jones said no-one managed to escape in the riot.

"Shortly after they set the fire they came out and surrendered," she said.

"I'd say the fire had a lot to do with it. They set a fire and it was shortly after the fire had been set they came out and they were apprehended."

Superintendent Jones said the Serious Crimes Unit was investigating and the teenagers were expected to be charged.

Both Minister for Corrections Robyn Lambley and Acting Commissioner Rosanne Lague have refused interview requests from journalists.

Ms Lague said four teenagers were involved, while police said eight took part.

Ms Lague also did not describe the incident as a riot, labelling the incident a "disturbance".

"Of the six detainees in the block, only four were involved in the disturbance during which some windows and other fittings were damaged," she said.

"An attempt was made to set fire to a mattress that was quickly doused with water and a detainee managed to get into a roof space, however the security of the block was not compromised.

"Today we are assessing the cost of the damage at Don Dale and we will be working with police to lay charges against those involved."

The riot happened in the old Berrimah prison, which was renamed the Don Dale Juvenile Detention Centre after Darwin's new prison opened in September.

G-block had been used for medium-security adult prisoners.

Darwin's old youth prison, which was also called Don Dale Juvenile Detention Centre, was shut down in 2014 after an escape attempt in August.

In that escape attempt prison officers used tear gas to subdue six teenagers.



Melbourne: Graffiti action for long term anarchist prisoners

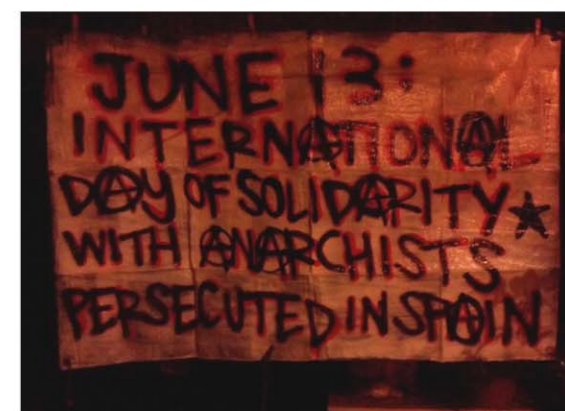
12 June – Graffiti appeared in Melbourne on the night of June 11, the International Day of Solidarity with Long-Term Anarchist Prisoners. The graffiti appeared on walls overlooking the busy West Gate Freeway that connects the Western Suburbs of Melbourne with the rest of the city. The painted slogans included 'Free All Anarchist Political Prisoners', 'Free Emma Sheppard' and 'Free All Long-Term Anarchist Prisoners.'



Melbourne: Banner in solidarity with anarchists facing persecution in Spain

14 June - Last night in Melbourne, a banner was hung for the "International Day of Solidarity with Anarchists Facing Persecution from the Spanish state". The banner was hung from a fence facing the busy Punt Rd in Richmond.

Solidarity with all anarchist comrades facing persecution via Operation Pandora and Operation Pinata repressive police actions!



Brisbane: Shoes thrown at Federal Immigration Minister during refugee ceremony

14 June – Immigration Minister Peter Dutton was the victim of a shoe throwing incident as he attended a welcome ceremony for refugees in Brisbane this morning.

The minister was about to deliver a speech at Welcomefest, at Annerley, when a man stood up and yelled at him, before throwing two sneakers at him.

A 33-year-old man from Ocean View, near Dayboro, was arrested over the incident.

He later told reporters: "I think (Mr Dutton) should be ashamed for what his Government is doing and how asylum seekers are being treated in detention centres."

He accused Mr Dutton of hypocrisy over the Government's policy of turning back asylum seeker boats.

"Here he is welcoming refugees, but his Government isn't welcoming refugees at all — they're doing the absolute opposite," Mr Sprigg said.

Melbourne: Banner for Marco Camenisch

June 23 – A banner was placed on fencing near Richmond railway station as a slightly belated small contribution to the June 20-22 International Days of Action for Marco Camenisch.

Marco Libero!

Solidarity with Marco Camenisch and all revolutionary prisoners held hostage by the state worldwide!



Gaan-Yarra is one of about 12 people who will pledge their Yidindji citizenship tomorrow.

He says because Indigenous Australians are not recognised in the constitution, those who pledge themselves to the Yidindji can not be dual Australian citizens.

"It is recognised even by the federal court of Australia that 'adoption' is a method of recruitment in accordance with the traditional law and custom of the Yidindji Tribal People. The United

"The Australian people have not yet voted to 'recognise' the Aboriginal people into their Australian constitution. Due to this lack of recognition dual citizenship will not be possible until the Australians vote 'yes' to let the Aboriginal people take part in the social, cultural, economic and political life of the Commonwealth of Australia."

Asked if the decision to quit Australia to join the Yidindji nation was a "lifestyle choice" (an echo, perhaps, of prime minister Tony Abbott's controversial assertion that Indigenous Australians who live on some remote communities were exercising such discretion), he said: "This is not a lifestyle choice; this is about correcting the past injustices and securing the future for all people who call this great land home."

Murrumu says Gaan-Yarra is one of several white skinned, soon to be former Australians, who were becoming Yidindji citizens on Monday.

"He has been adopted through the Yidindji tribal law," Murrumu says.

He says those who become Yidindji citizens on Monday "can use whatever resources are in our territory" including "such resources that have been put there without Yidindji consent".

"In general the citizen can go about their business as long as they cause no harm, injury or loss to anyone else. The sovereign Yidindji government is continuing to build its capacity to ensure it maintains peace, order and good governance of our territory and its citizens through an interim transition process which is being developed."

Asked what standards of legal and political governance Yidindji would impose on its citizens, he said: "At this stage we are aiming for a western style democracy and our interim government will strive to have the best available democratic processes ... we don't expect to have a perfect system up and running immediately – however we are looking at great examples of people-powered government's including the likes of Sweden, Switzerland, Cuba and other nation states."

Murrumu insists he is not a proponent for either the "yes" or "no" cases on the question of constitutional recognition of Indigenous Australians likely to be put to referendum in 2017 – 50 years after Australians voted to give the Commonwealth power to legislate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and to count them in the census. Regardless, his talk about constitutional recognition is unlikely to be welcomed by the "yes" campaigners.

"That question of changing the constitution – it's got nothing to do with me. I'm not Australian, so I won't be voting. But if Australians want to vote to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and then enter into trade negotiations and treaties with the Yidindji, then that's fine," he says.

The Yidindji government has an appointed chief minister – Gudju Gudju Gimuybara. The chief minister position "will become in time an elected position".

Grafton: Police hunting hoodlums



3 Jan - Fresh vandal attacks on an equestrian park in South Grafton have taken a turn for the worse.

Secretary of the equestrian club, Karen McLennan, said this latest attack had a nastier edge than previous ones.

"This time they've really gone to town, breaking windows, scattering food all over the floor and writing graffiti all over the walls."

McLennan said the main damage was to a roller door which had been smashed to gain entry to the club's canteen.

The only good news is the attackers might have been careless enough to leave clues this time.

"When we reported it, the police said they thought there might be some evidence they've left behind this time.

"They said the forensic police would be there tomorrow to look for any clues they've left behind."

Mrs McLennan said previous attacks on the canteen had been more nuisance value than anything else. This one was more serious.

Mrs McLennan said the cost of the damage would run to thousands of dollars and was a big inconvenience to club members, who had to clean up afterwards.

She said the club had cleaned up the mess, which included having pieces of meat thrown around the floor.

Coffs Clarence Local Area Command duty officer Sergeant Brendan Gorman said forensic police would check the scene for fingerprints and DNA evidence.

Coolbinia: Boys aged under 10 started school fire

8 Jan - Police say two boys under the age of 10 were responsible for lighting a fire in the grounds of a primary school in Perth.

The fire was started on Sunday at Coolbinia Primary School.

Firefighters called in helitaks to provide aerial support.

The boys, aged 8 and 9, are under the age of criminal responsibility but will be referred to a juvenile program run by the Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services.

Brisb: Man Arrested For T-Shirt



8 Jan - A man who mocks Queensland premier Campbell Newman on twitter with a parody account has been arrested for being "a public nuisance" for standing next to supporters of a government MP wearing an "I'm with stupid" t-shirt.

Iain Fogerty, 44, aka @Can_do_Campbell was arrested in Fortitude Valley after 3 patrol cars, a paddy wagon and 10 police officers responded to 2 complaints.

Fogerty was standing next to members of Brisbane Central MP Robert Cavallucci in blue t-shirts on the 2nd day of campaigning in Queensland's January 31 snap election.

They were waving to passers-by on the corner of Brunswick and Martin when Fogerty joined them and began waving too.

Cavallucci claims his volunteers were harassed and pushed.

Fogerty was taken away in the paddy wagon and later released on bail, charged with public nuisance.

Canberra: Aboriginal man defies court and asserts Yidinji sovereignty

13 Jan - Yesterday morning indigenous activist Murrumu Walubara Yidindji appeared in the Canberra Magistrates Court after three days in custody following his arrest last Friday morning.

Murrumu had allegedly failed to comply with orders for him to end his occupation of an ACT government house that he had established as an embassy for the Yidinji people, an Aboriginal nation from the Cairns area in north Queensland.

That Murrumu spent three days in prison on a minor trespass-related charge—that would normally attract a fine and be the subject of a summons following release on police bail—is explained by this statement from ACT Police.

“He was informed that he was entitled to bail under Section 8 of the Bail Act but given he did not recognise the Australian Law System bail was refused under Section 22 of the Bail Act. Watch House Bail was refused as the defendant stated that he would not attend court as per the undertakings required.”

When Murrumu appeared before Magistrate Bernadette Boss yesterday morning he refused to cooperate or acknowledge the authority or jurisdiction of the court, telling her not to interrupt him while he was speaking. Murrumu was removed from court twice before magistrate Boss adjourned his matter. As she left the bench Murrumu shouted to the court that “He who leaves the battlefield first loses by default. I dismiss all charges.”

Due to Murrumu lack of cooperation Boss entered a “not guilty” plea on his behalf and, notwithstanding his unusual conduct, proceeded to upbraid the prosecution for its conduct of the matter. As Daniel Hurst reported in The Guardian yesterday, Boss:

... asked whether the prosecution would pursue the charge and Mansfield said that it would do so. Boss told the prosecutor: “I hope your director [of prosecutions] is well aware of the course of action you’re taking.”

She said she was “very keen” to speed up the matter and adjourned the case to 16 February. “The defendant is released unconditionally,” she said. “I dispense with bail.”

Geia, previously a Canberra press gallery journalist of standing and experience, most recently came to attention for his announcement in early 2014 that he had renounced Australian citizenship and:

... returned his passport and Medicare card to the Australian Commonwealth, and sent his driver’s licence back to the chief minister of the Australian Capital Territory, where he then lived. Then Murrumu – who has since returned to live permanently in Yidindji country – quit his job, gave away most possessions and walked away from his bank savings and a superannuation account built up over two decades.

Murrumu told journalists that:

“The Yidindji tribal people are not bound by any laws created subject to the Australian constitution – they are of superior jurisdiction and Australian citizens, including Australian police, must be very careful when encountering people of our jurisdiction. So the Yidindji police are there to protect the Yidindji people and to uphold the laws created by the sovereign Yidindji government.”

Late last year Murrumu and other Yidindji men posted to the front door of the Cairns courthouse a document addressed to various departments of the Government, including the Prime Minister and Attorney-General’s office.

It stated that the Commonwealth of Australia doesn’t have the authority to make laws for the Yidindji Tribal People.

The notice has also been sent to the Russian Embassy, which has been working with Yidindji and are acting as independent and impartial observers.

Cairns: Some locals to follow Murrumu by taking Yidindji citizenship



6 June - Queensland police may have regarded it as a rather bizarre, one-off incident when they recently arrested Murrumu Walubara Yidindji while he was driving with a licence and a car registration issued in the name of his north Queensland Indigenous nation.

But when a couple dozen indigenous locals take the Yidindji citizenship pledge on Monday, the headache for Queensland police might really begin. One of them is Beatrice Dodd, who told journalists that:

“I’m very keen. I don’t suspect it’s going to be easy, but with the help and support of Murrumu and the elders it’s only going to empower me further,” she said.

Since early 2014 Murrumu – formerly the National Indigenous Television journalist known as Jeremy Geia – has been living by the tribal law of his Indigenous Yidindji people. He has renounced his Australian citizenship and all associated documents and permits.

“It doesn’t matter if you’re black or white, living on Yidindji land, if you want to be a part of our life it is a lifestyle choice, a real lifestyle choice,” he said.

He has extended an invitation to Prime Minister Tony Abbott to talk with him as a first step towards a formal treaty.

“Yidindji is the remedy. Come and sit down and talk with us because we’re ready to do business for our territory,” he said.

He decided to forgo his bank and superannuation accounts, and has shunned money and other possessions beyond a few clothes.

Murrumu is also a visual artist who sometimes uses his work for barter.

In January Murrumu was arrested in Canberra on a trespass charge related to his use of public housing property as the Yidindji embassy. The car he was driving, fitted with black and gold number plates reading YID 001, had also come to police attention and the plates were taken. They have not been returned.

Last month police arrested Geia at a roadside stop at Gordonvale, north Queensland. He had again been driving a car with Yidindji plates and using a Yidindji licence. Police charged Geia with driving an unregistered and uninsured car with false plates, and driving without a licence while possessing “an article resembling a licence”.

Geia is due to reappear in court this month. But Murrumu – the Yidindji foreign affairs and trade minister – is unlikely to show: the Yidindji nation does not recognise the jurisdiction of the court. Murrumu and his attorney general, Gaan-Yarra Yalambara, insist the crown has no authority to impose its law on Yidindji citizens because the Australian constitution does not recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Besides helping to establish the fledgling Yidindji nation – which covers an area in North Queensland about one and a half times the size of Hong Kong – Murrumu is home schooling his infant son, Jeremy. No pre-school in the Cairns district would accept the child without an Australian birth certificate; Murrumu could only offer a tribal birth document.

Nations defines ‘Aboriginal’ people as: ‘Self-identification at the individual level and accepted by the community as their member’,” Gaan-Yarra said.

Sydney: Locals Protest After Transgender Musician Bashed At Hotel

8 June - Locals have protested in Sydney this evening after transgender woman Stephanie McCarthy, bassist for Sydney band Love Maul, was reportedly bashed at Newtown's Town Hall Hotel on Friday night, 5th June, as she was waiting to perform with her band.

Ms McCarthy says the incident involved 5 men bashing her in an unprovoked attack.

Ms McCarthy has accused Town Hall Hotel security of not intervening while she was bashed, then allowing the alleged offenders to escape.

McCarthy said the Town Hall did "everything wrong" and suggested the venue was victim blaming. "They were warned about these guys... but they kept serving them," she said.

Ms McCarthy spoke during the protest against violence and transphobia and stated that the response she's seen from locals has been overwhelming.

"From such a horrible incident and such horrible violence, to see this amount of people in our community come up and stand up and say 'enough', it's really really special.

Demonstrators first gathered at the Hu before marching across to the Townie where they stood opposing the police with banners that read "WE BASH BACK" along with chants of "no transphobia" and "shame, Townie shame".

A number of the demonstrators wore masks and many in the crowd proceeded to heckle and abuse the security guards and police officers protecting the building.

For the next hour demonstrators picketed the Town Hall while chanting anti-police slogans.



Teens allegedly lead police on two hour, 20km/h pursuit

13 June - Three teenage boys have been charged after allegedly leading police on a 20km/h pursuit through the streets of Logan and the M1 for close to two hours.

Police spotted the boys in an allegedly stolen car from the police helicopter Polair 2 while it was headed along the Logan Motorway at midnight on Saturday. The chopper followed the car as it headed into Logan, south of Brisbane, where traffic police attempted to intercept it.

Police allege the teens refused to stop the car and a "tyre deflation device" was deployed, which flattened all four tyres.

But the car kept going and police pursued it until they were ordered to fall back. The vehicle, travelling no faster than 20km/h, was instead followed by officers in the air while police on the ground slowed traffic on the M1 as the car limped south down the motorway.

Just after 2am the alleged stolen vehicle, which was extensively damaged, was stopped and the three teens taken into custody. Two police cars were also damaged in the case.

A 19-year-old man from Molendinar, alleged to be the driver, was charged with unlawful use and dangerous operation of a motor vehicle as well as unlicensed driving, failure to stop, wilful damage and obstructing police.

A 17-year-old from Loganlea was charged with unlawful use of a motor vehicle and obstructing police charges, while a 15-year-old boy, also from Loganlea, will face the same charges but will be dealt with under the Youth Justice Act.

Yulleroo: Sabotage confirmed at fracking well



15 Jan - A Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) investigation has found a leaking valve at a Buru Energy gas well was deliberately damaged.

WA police are now investigating the incident to identify those responsible for the sabotage, which took place at the Yulleroo 2 gas well, about 70 kilometres east of Broome.

DMP executive director Jeff Hawthorn said "the preliminary investigation by dangerous goods inspectors identified unauthorised access to the site and deliberate damage to the valve on the well head."

West Australian Mines Minister Bill Marmion has accused environmental protesters of being involved in the well vandalism.

Mr Marmion told Parliament a valve shaft was found to be so bent out of shape that only a heavy instrument like a sledgehammer could have caused it.

"[It] shows what lengths some people will go to stop proper exploration for gas and mining exploration in Western Australia, Mr Speaker," he said.



West Perth car dealership fire destroys vehicles, damages showroom

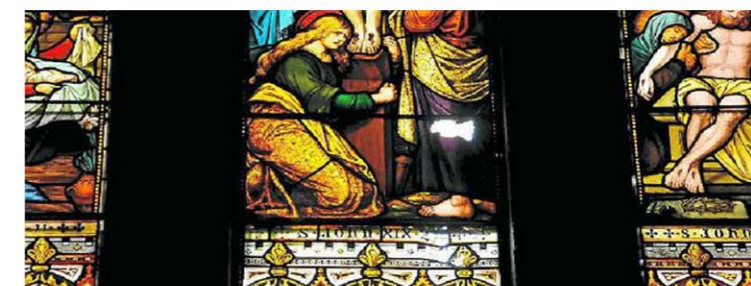


18 Jan - The arson squad will investigate an overnight fire at a car yard in Perth that damaged vehicles.

The showroom and at least two cars were damaged in the blaze at the City Motors Holden yard on Newcastle Street.

The arson squad are also looking into a fire at a Morley business, reported about 1:15am

Grafton: Woman smashes \$50k Cathedral window



17 Jan - Half a brick is all it took to cause roughly \$50,000 of damage to a stained glass window in the Christ Church Cathedral.

The heritage-listed Grafton building's window was damaged just after 4pm on Monday afternoon, by a 39-year-old woman who had entered the building.

Cathedral Dean Father Donald Kirk said the damage was sustained to part of the depiction of the crucifixion of Jesus and Last Supper; in the centre panel of a series of five lights above the church altar.

According to Fr Kirk, the window was constructed in memory of someone who died in 1893, and is believed to be more than 100 years old.

The cathedral is classified by the National Trust as being of great historic significance to the state.

Fr Kirk said the church was in the process of working out how to have the window fixed.

Queensland: Unions investigated for threats, intimidation, snap strikes and vandalism

20 Jan - Militant union activity is rampant in Queensland, with building investigators claiming to be "run off their feet" looking into threats, intimidation, snap strikes and vandalism. It follows 88 investigations in the state last year – well up from the 21 in 2008.

"Our Queensland investigators are run off their feet responding to calls for help," Fair Work Building & Construction (FWBC) director Nigel Hadgkiss said. "Despite my staff working their hardest to enforce the rule of law on construction sites, the spread of unlawful activity seems to be spreading faster than ever."

Cases already being prosecuted include CFMEU members allegedly threatening company representatives, blocking sites, and launching sudden stop-work meetings.

Court action is under way against the union after work stopped at the Brisbane Common Ground Project for seven days, with superglued padlocks and illegally parked cars allegedly used to block off the site.

It's claimed one subcontractor was threatened with "industrial suicide" if he allowed his men to work during the dispute with Grocon over an enterprise agreement.

In another case, workers at a South Brisbane apartment block allegedly downed tools at the bequest of the CFMEU over a visit by two investigators from the Queensland Building Construction Compliance Branch.

But CFMEU Queensland secretary Michael Ravbar said FWBC investigators were looking into "bullshit-type matters".

"We're no angels, yes it's a robust, it's a tough industry and all the rest but if you look at the actual cases ... they're just nothing disputes," Mr Ravbar said.

He denied there was widespread threats, intimidation and unfounded strikes and said the majority of issues were about safety. "It's an industry with a lot of money churning over but it's also an industry with a lot of problems," he said.

Ashgrove: Campell Newman sign vandalised

21 Jan - A trailer mounted Campbell Newman billboard in Ashgrove has been defaced, with vandals leaving a political message of their own.

The trailer, bearing a picture of the Premier with the slogan "Keep Ashgrove and Qld strong", was parked along Settlement Road at The Gap several days ago.

By Wednesday morning, the phrase "Ashgrove hates U" had been spray-painted across it.

Meanwhile the Brisbane City Council confirmed in a statement it had received complaints about the sign from residents.

"In accordance with the election advertising guidelines sent to all parties, Council asked for the vehicle to be removed which has occurred," the statement read.

"The police are investigating the graffiti incident."



Toowoomba: Pro-traditional marriage doctor cops vandalism



2 June - An public proponent of 'traditional marriage' says a graffiti attack on his surgery is evidence the same-sex debate has become "unhealthy" in Australia.

Dr David Van Gend says he has become used to being abused because of his vocal stance on same-sex marriage.

The Toowoomba-based doctor has been outspoken on his desire to not change the definition of marriage.

"I get so much of this, but usually it's anonymous trolls online," he said.

"Internet trolling is one thing, but this is malicious damage. I don't own the building. It's someone else's property they've vandalised."

Dr Van Gend says his name plaque on the building has previously been defaced.

"Anyone who stands up for the law of the land, for saying that marriage is between a man and a woman... is attacked, not argued with And that's what happened yesterday".

Dr Van Gend described marriage between a man and woman as "the foundation of society."

"The mother and father unit is so strong, but people are frightened to put their head up, because they won't only get their surgery defaced by vandals, but they're going to be treated like they are some sort of moral pariah."

Melbourne: Graffiti attack on Labour party HQ firing protest



5 June - Vandals have defaced the Victorian Labor party HQ in Melbourne with pro-refugee slogans during a protest against Labors stance on asylum seekers and mandatory detention.

The protesters painted slogans such as 'Justice 4 Refugees' and "ALP ur no different to LIBS" during a brazen daylight attack, which they filmed and released online.

The protesters were drawing attention to the plight of the Rohingya refugees and the indifference offered them by the government and the Labor opposition.



Melbourne: Protesters clash at rival rallies

31 May - Anti-Islam protesters and anti-racism activists have clashed in Melbourne despite police attempts to keep the opposing groups apart.

Far right Reclaim Australia splinter group United Patriots Front (UPF) planned to rally in front of the Richmond Town Hall on Sunday afternoon.

However, more than 300 protesters from a counter-rally by Campaign Against Racism and Fascism stationed themselves near the Town Hall before they got there.

The two groups traded verbal insults and punches when they confronted each other near the town hall. The huge police presence, including mounted police struggled to keep the crowds apart, and officers scuffled with protesters from both sides.

About 12.30pm United Patriots Front leader Sherman Burgess and supporters arrived at nearby Citizens Park.

Flying Australian flags and some in t-shirts sporting swastikas, they launched into speeches railing against the assembled "left-wing traitors", halal certification and the Islamic terror threat.

Eventually about 50 UPF supporters marched to the town hall chanting "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie" and "I am Australian".

But it was not long before the much larger crowd of antifascists drowned out their chants with slogans such as: "fuck off nazis" and "Muslims are welcome, racists are not".

The rally started about 1.30pm and stopped traffic around the town hall for more than 30 minutes.

UPF said their gathering was a response to the left-wing violence members of its group had experienced during clashes at Federation Square in April.

UPF leader Sherman Burgess described the protest as an attempt to reclaim Australia from "Communism" and "Sharia Law".

At one stage, some of the anti-racism activists surrounded a man who was taking video footage of them and accused him of being from the UPF group.

After hurling abuse at him and removing his Australia flag cap, he retreated.

About 2pm, as the heavens opened, the UPF group left the area under police guard as jubilant counter-protesters celebrated, chanting "You will always lose in Melbourne".

A police spokeswoman later said while there were no arrests at the protest, but a man from UPF crowd was given a court summons after he was allegedly found carrying a knife.



Sydney: Actions against Australia Day

26 Jan - In the lead up to Australia's annual celebration of colonial occupation, some anarchists in Sydney engaged in a campaign of anti-patriotic or sabotage.

Numerous flags across the city were removed and later burnt. Dozens of banners promoting council organised Australia day events were removed from bridges and later repainted, while hundreds of posters promoting Australia day parties at various hotels and venues were also torn or defaced.

A few thousand unpatriotic posters were pasted up throughout different suburbs, along with anti-nationalist slogans which were painted across walls in dozens of locations.

Weed killer was also used to spray anti-colonial slogans and symbols into the grass at a number of official Australia day events.

On the evening of January 25, more Unaustralian messages were painted over a handful of citizenship ceremony venues, while the First Fleet statue in Brighton Le Sands was vandalised for the third year in a row.

On the morning of January 26, a dozen appropriated banners bearing anti-colonial slogans were attached to highway bridges throughout Sydney.

Around midday, anarchists from across Sydney joined hundreds of indigenous activists and supporters in a demonstration for aboriginal sovereignty.

Later in the evening a hundred or so captured colonial rags were torched in bonfire.

No allegiance to the state.

Lets fight against Australia, everyday.



Melb: Aboriginal sovereignty protest disrupts Australia Day Parade



27 Jan - Hundreds of people marching for Aboriginal rights have disrupted official Australia Day celebrations in the Melbourne CBD.

The group – holding Aboriginal flags and chanting "always was, always will be Aboriginal land" – followed the parade down Swanston Street, flanked by police.

The rally came after more than 100 special interest, sporting and cultural groups had marched from the Melbourne Town Hall to Kings Domain as part of the Australia Day Parade.

Thousands of spectators watched the parade, which began with a flag raising ceremony at town hall attended by Victorian Governor Alex Chernov, Premier Daniel Andrews and Opposition Leader Matthew Guy.

The rally that followed was led by two organisations: Warriors of Aboriginal Resistance and First Nations Liberation.

Organiser Meriki Onus, 27, said the group had earlier gathered at the steps of parliament house to lay flowers in commemoration of Aboriginal people who were killed during white settlement, the Stolen Generation and Aboriginal deaths in custody.



She said January 26 was a day of mourning for Aboriginal people.

"We don't celebrate Australia Day, because Australia Day celebrates genocide," Ms Onus said. "Today is Invasion Day for Aboriginal people."

As the vocal group marched from Parliament to town hall and on to Birrarung Marr, people chanted "No pride in genocide" and "Always was, always will be Aboriginal land."

Placards carried in the procession included "End the NT intervention" and "Stop deaths in custody".

The rally came to a brief halt at the intersection of St Kilda Road and Flinders Street as members of the crowd burned gum leaves.

Ms Onus said the turnout for the rally was far greater than she had expected.

Djuran Bunjileenee, from First Nations Liberation, said it was important for the wider community to remember the events of January 26.

"Australia Day is the day our land was physically occupied by invaders," Mr Bunjileenee said.

A Victoria Police spokeswoman said police were aware of an Invasion Day protest.

No arrests were made.



Sunshine Coast: Vandals target bundles of newspapers with fire

30 May - A Sunshine Coast newsagency has proven lightning does strike twice, but this time for all the wrong reasons.

On Friday the Daily reported Wurtulla Newsagency had sold their second First Division Lotto win in exactly 12 months.

But the victory was short-lived after vandals stole and set alight three bundles of Sunshine Coast Daily newspapers that had been delivered to the store.

Store owner Gavin Yarrow said Saturday's incident was the second time this year his store had been targeted.

He said the vandals stole three bundles of papers from the front of his store and set them alight in the park behind the shopping complex.

This is the second time this year the store has been targeted by vandals.

Over Easter, Mr Yarrow said they had bundles of The Courier-Mail and Sunshine Coast Daily stolen and set alight.

Sunshine Coast Crime Prevention Unit Senior Constable Mark Readman said the incident was unfortunate in light of the recent good news of the First Division Lotto win.

Snr Const Readman said from January 1 to May 23 this year, there had been 616 incidents of property damage and 21 reported arsons.

Brisbane: Arson suspected after four Brisbane businesses destroyed in fire at Salisbury industrial complex

2 June - Authorities suspect an arsonist is responsible for a fire that destroyed four businesses in southern Brisbane early this morning.

It took 11 firefighter crews to extinguish the early morning blaze at a Salisbury industrial complex.

The blaze broke out about 1:30am in the building and gutted four businesses where dozens of people work. A crime scene has now been established at the industrial complex.

A worker at one of the businesses, Bill Harpur, told journalists he believed a car was deliberately set alight at the back of the site.

"It looks like a skip has been pushed up against the building and the car's been beside that and they've set fire to the car, which has subsequently set the skip alight, which has set the building alight," he said.

"It's a bit hard to put into words what you think. I mean, standing across the road from our livelihood and it's not just me, it's the other people who work there and the people in the business next door.

"You know, 20 or 30 people's lives have been affected by this ... it's a bit hard to describe. [I'm a] bit numb at the moment, really."

Maria Villalbagauto, who worked at one of the businesses destroyed by the blaze, said that "my boss — he worked really hard for this and now it's all gone in flames."

Police investigators are hoping to get CCTV footage from surrounding businesses.

Perth: 'Sorry Day' protest against forced removals



25 May - Grandmothers Against Removals protest on Sorry Day in Perth against continuing stolen generations of Aboriginal children. The rally started at head office of so-called 'child protection', then marched to the Sorry Day event organised by Reconciliation WA. The public was informed of the current child-removal crisis until police repressed the protest.

The strong action finished off with dances from clans from the East to West coast.

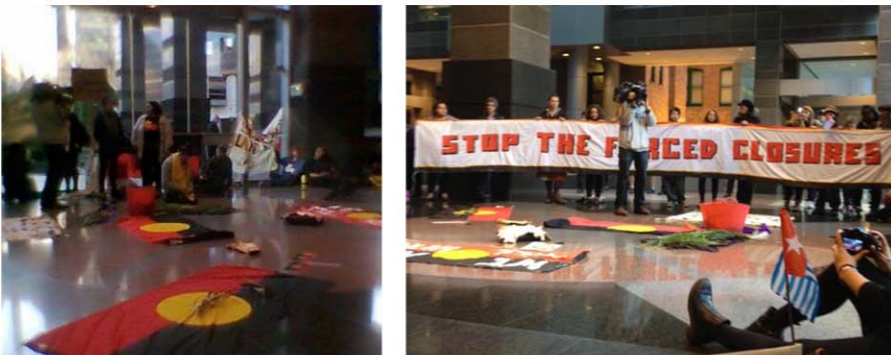
End the fear, end the racism, end the removals. Grandmothers and other family members affected by continuing stolen generations are getting organised and fighting back for self-determination.



Melb/Syd: Indigenous protesters occupy offices



25 May - Aboriginal warriors have taken over the department that continues the longstanding, genocidal policy Aboriginal child removal.



31 May - Warriors of the Aboriginal Resistance - WAR have occupied Rio Tinto's HQ on Collins Street, in Melbourne CBD.

The action was taken in protest against the forced closure of aboriginal communities, and Rio Tintos continued destruction of indigenous homelands and sacred sites.

2 June - Last night, the campaign for affordable housing for Aboriginal people in Sydney stepped up a gear when about 500 people occupied the offices of Deicorp in Redfern. Aboriginal activists from the Redfern Aboriginal Tent Embassy and a large number of supporters, including students, flooded into the lobby and up the stairs chanting "Deicorp, Deicorp, we won't stop - get your hands off the Block!" before settling into a half-hour sit in to protest the companies planned redevelopment of Redfern's famous indigenous Block.



Melbourne: Pro-refugee protesters disrupt tennis final



1 Feb - Police have arrested protesters who managed to get on centre court while unfurling a pro-refugee, anti-Manus detention banner during the men's final of the Australian Open.

Two people, both women, made their way down on to the court and were quickly subdued by security staff, as a banner was unfurled, which read "Australia Open for refugees" with a hashtag underneath saying "#shutdownmanus". The banner was draped over sponsorship signage just below the front row at the river end of Rod Laver Arena.

The court invasion occurred during the second set, when Novak Djokovic led Andy Murray 4-3, during the change of ends. There was a five-minute delay before play resumed and the players were surrounded by security staff.

Australian Open officials said two people had been arrested and that security had reacted immediately, with "minimal disruption".

The court invaders, a 28-year-old and a 32-year-old, are expected to be charged under the Major Sporting Events Act, a Victoria Police spokeswoman said.

Police say the pair will be charged with disrupting play.

A man and five women who were holding the banner were evicted and will also receive an infringement notice and will be banned from the Australian Open, the spokeswoman said.



Geraldton: Vandals torch \$24K worth of sports gear in PCYC attacks

2 Feb - More than \$20,000 worth of sporting equipment has been destroyed in an arson attack in Geraldton in mid-west Western Australia.

Police said sometime overnight offenders broke into the Wonthella sporting complex, stealing and damaging equipment from several clubs.

Equipment was also stolen from the Aquarena and a sea container was set on fire at the Geraldton Hockey Association, destroying about \$24,000 worth of new uniforms and hockey sticks.

The manager of Geraldton's Police and Community Youth Centre (PCYC) said the facility had repeatedly been targeted by vandals.

In the past two months, windows at the PCYC in Wonthella have been smashed and facilities damaged.

A number of support services have recently been vandalised in Geraldton, including the Red Cross store which was heavily graffitied.

PCYC manager Jill Bourke said it was frustrating having to spend what little funding the centre received on security and repairs.

She said the ongoing damage was affecting finances and morale of volunteers.

"It just seems like whatever we've done in the last month is going to be going to repairs, maintenance, security measures," she said.

"I don't see that our centre's going to close because of this. We've been around for nearly 75 years. We're not going to shut the door. We get over this, we try our best to keep going."

Port Hedland: Thieves trash building site and steal \$10K generator

3 Feb - Offenders have caused thousands-of-dollars damage to a building site in Port Hedland, in north-west Western Australia, before making off with a \$10,000 generator.

The vandals broke into an office block at the site over the weekend, stealing computers and the keys to a ute and other machinery. They used a bobcat and excavator to ram structures, including window frames, causing an estimated \$15,000 damage.

They then used the machinery to load a generator onto the back of a ute, before fleeing.

Singleton: Circus shocked by level of vandalism

3 Feb - Stardust Circus employees were shocked, on Friday morning, to find the majority of their promotional banners displayed in Singleton had been vandalised.

The cost of replacing the posters is estimated at \$6000 but what concerned Stardust Circus the most was the explicit language sprayed on the banners and the suggestion the animals used in the circus were treated as "slaves".

"It's rare for this to happen to our banners especially in a country town like Singleton," ring-master Adam St James said. "It's very disappointing for everyone at the circus to suggest we are cruel to our animals. The animals are part of our family. Ours is the largest animal circus in Australia.

Stardust will be in town this week for a number of performances and the posters were put on display last month to promote the shows.

"We had permission from all the businesses and homeowners where the banners were displayed," Mr St James told The Argus. "But on Friday we discovered the damage – all the posters had been spray-painted and, at the Singleton Showground where the circus will be staged, a wall was spray-painted with explicit words."

Mr St James said the circus usually enjoyed visiting country towns and providing great entertainment. "We are normally made to feel most welcome by the community but this vandalism is extremely hurtful and concerning," he added.

Peppermint Grove: Graffiti vandals target unfinished Oswald mansion

9 Feb - Graffiti covers at least three domes at the incomplete \$70 million Oswald mansion in the affluent Bay View Terrace, Peppermint Grove since Australia Day.

Wealthy neighbours who spoke to journalists, but did not wish to be named because they feared retribution from the vandals, likened the graffiti to that of inner-city ghettos.

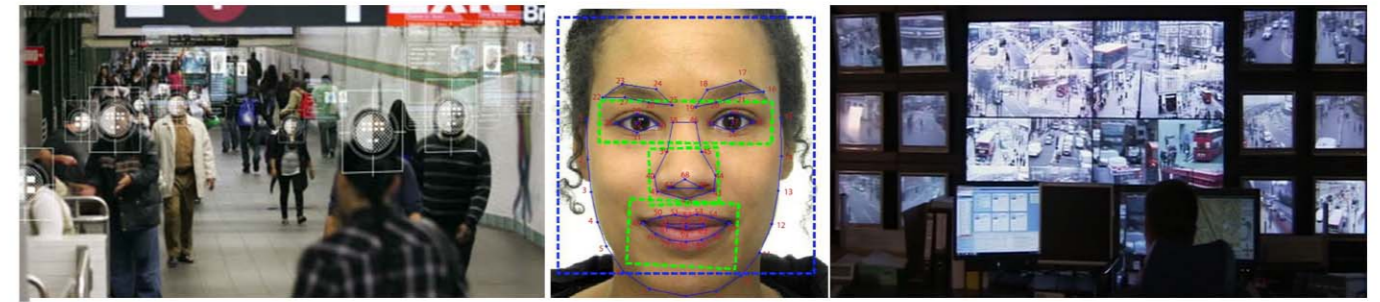
They also said there had been a noticeable rise in the spray painting in the past two weeks.

Peppermint Grove Council alleges Pankaj and Radhika Oswald, who left the mansion unfinished in 2010, owe about \$100,000 in rates after a \$58,000 part-payment was made in December.

The 6600sqm, weed-strewn site is being used as a rubbish dump and is reportedly littered with hand-made drug smoking implements and is an occasional home to vagrants.



Australia: Police back national facial recognition database



22 May - Australian law enforcement agencies have collectively backed a plan to build a national facial recognition database that will match faces to images on passports, visas and driver's licences.

Attorneys-General and police ministers from the Commonwealth, states and territories met in Canberra today to agree on a coordinated plan to combat cross-border criminal networks.

The 2015-18 strategy will prioritise information sharing capabilities and the battle against cybercrime, including agreement to "explore" a national facial biometric matching capability. "This will assist agencies to combat the increasingly sophisticated use of fraudulent identities by organised crime groups," the document states.

The intergovernmental group also resolved to fast-track the development of a national firearms interface (NFI) that will hold a record of every gun in Australia "detailing every event in a firearm's existence and providing the ability to trace the firearm from foundry to furnace".

The NFI was given the green light back in 2012 but has yet to get up and running, despite lobbying from the law enforcement community.

The plan also makes a handful of vague commitments to erasing legislative and cultural barriers that currently stop state and federal police forces from exchanging critical information. = It picks out encryption, digital currencies and the dark web as other key threats to national law enforcement.

It states that encrypted communication "enables crime to be committed remotely and with relative anonymity - characteristics that are attractive to serious and organised crime groups as they make the identification and prosecution of the offenders more difficult".

The strategy also draws attention to virtual currencies such as Bitcoin which "can fall outside the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regulatory framework".

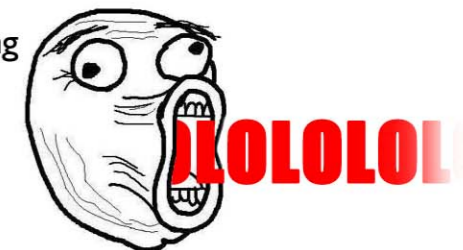
Coffs Harbour: Cop hit by police car

23 May - A police officer is in hospital after he was hit by a police car during a chase in Coffs Harbour.

The 41-year-old was struck about 1.30pm on Saturday during an operation in which police were using road spikes outside of Coffs Harbour to stop a car travelling north on the Pacific Highway.

He sustained numerous injuries but was conscious and breathing when taken to Coffs Harbour Health Campus, police say.

An investigation into how he was hit is under way.



Melbourne: CBD Graffiti action in solidarity with Mumia Abu Jamal.

17 May - Mumia* is currently hospitalised due to an extremely serious medical condition and he is being denied proper medical care - his life is in great danger.

The fascist North American state was unable to execute Mumia via 'legal' methods for the trumped up charges he has been imprisoned on since 1981 so now they are trying to execute him again but this time via medical neglect and malpractice.

We took to the streets of Melbourne's CBD with spray-paint on May 17 to express our anger and outrage at the malicious and vindictive actions of the tyrannical North American state and its repressive 'correctional' system and sprayed 'Free Mumia' tags at various locations throughout the city as a visual reminder to passers-by that even in far away places such as these stolen territories administered by the colonial entity referred to as Australia, Mumia's situation has been and continues to be well known - especially now given the perilous situation Mumia is currently enduring.

We add our voices to the international chorus of solidaritarians who are demanding the following:

(1) Adequate diagnostic testing of Mumia's health be done (2) That Mumia's doctor be able to communicate freely and regularly with the prison infirmary physicians who are delivering Mumia's medical care (3) His doctor be allowed meaningful and regular phone access with Mumia. (There are no phones in the hospital, in the infirmary, his calls are limited to 15 mins and he has limited access to the day room where the phones are). (4) Allow Mumia's chosen doctor to conduct an onsite medical examination, and (5) as many have said, it is past time for Mumia to be released from prison!

This action took place within the context of our ongoing Winter offensive of graffiti and propaganda actions in solidarity with anarchist and other revolutionary prisoners worldwide.

- Subversive Tagging & Propaganda Cell

*Mumia Abu-Jamal is a revolutionary prisoners as well as an internationally celebrated black writer and radio journalist

Mumia Abu-Jamal was tried, convicted and sentenced to death in 1982 for the murder of Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner, an incident which took place on December 9, 1981.

For the next 30 years, Mumia was held in isolation on Death Row. He was kept there for over ten years even though a federal judge ordered his death sentence overturned in 2001.

Mumia remains in prison under a sentence of life without parole.



Geraldton: 3 children 'absolutely destroy' investment property



5 Feb - Three boys under the age of 10 have trashed an unused investment property, causing tens of thousands of dollars damage in Geraldton in Western Australia.

Marianne Miller arrived at her investment property in Rangeway Tuesday afternoon to find windows smashed, carpet ripped up, paint strewn around the house and an air conditioning unit torn off the wall.

Interior and exterior walls had huge holes kicked in them and some were ripped down completely.

Two boys, aged eight, and another aged nine have admitted to police their involvement in the vandalism.

Due to their ages, the trio is exempt from prosecution but have been referred to child protection authorities.

Ms Miller said she rents the house out and was in between tenants when the vandalism occurred.

She was speechless after seeing the damage and could not fathom the children's motivation.

"I was just completely in shock," she said.

"I didn't know what to do, I was just shocked, speechless. The amount of damage that they did - for children, they must have spent quite a bit of time in the house over the weekend.

The only thing I can think of is they're bored. They're babies, they need to be guided in the right direction.

"Where are the parents? What are the parents doing at the time when [they] are completely ruining a house?"

"I am actually amazed kids could do that much damage. I couldn't imagine my kids who are the same age being capable of doing that much damage."

Sergeant Shilo O'Neill said it was uncommon to see such extensive damage caused by young children.

"The damage is certainly quite significant and it's not very common for this sort of thing to occur.

"We have on the occasion from time to time had similar incidents of this nature, but it's not something that is prevalent in the community."

Ms Miller said a new tenant was scheduled to move into the house a day after the damage was done.

She said she had begun the process of making an insurance claim.

"They've absolutely destroyed the property, they've knocked all the walls in, the walls are actually exposed to the outside of the property," she said.

"Before we boarded it up, you could literally walk into the room from the backyard.

"There's paint all over the kitchen cabinet, basically every room has been touched.

"In the bathroom, the wall has been kicked in, the doors have been ripped off and there's paint all over the bath.

"Today a quote was done by a building company so we're waiting to hear back from them on what they estimate the cost to be.

"I don't think it will be pretty; it will be up there."

Adelong: Residents' distress at attack on Cenotaph

11 Feb - There is distress in Adelong at a vandal attack on the town's Cenotaph.

Alan Gowanloch, Co-ordinator of Adelong chapter of Tumut RSL sub-branch told journalists that "the mere fact that it's a very expensive thing to replace, it's the destruction of a monument erected for the people who have served the country... I'm deeply distressed actually."

Gowanloch, says 80 names were engraved on the granite panel and four more were to be added for Anzac Day.

"It has completely ruined the thing, it is in about six or eight pieces," he said.

"The unfortunate part about it of course is it's very expensive to repair and it's really a useless act of vandalism.

"I'm really ashamed of my community to think that there is someone ... the mere fact that it's a very expensive thing to replace, it's the destruction of a monument erected for the people who have served the country and many of them have died. "I'm deeply distressed actually."

Mr Gowanloch doubts the repairs can be fixed in time for the 2015 Anzac service as the damage is so severe.

"I don't think we have the slightest chance of having the thing done by Anzac Day," he said.

"The time taken to engrave 80 names and initials on the panel as well as cutting the panel which is an odd shape, I doubt that they have the resources to do that in the short space of time really that is required."



Eden: Police investigating boat vandalism at wharf

13 Feb - Police hope surveillance footage and fingerprinting will lead to the arrests of those responsible for a vandalism attack at Eden on the NSW south coast.

Stephen Judd from Eden Water Police said someone broke into two tugboats, a whale-watching vessel and several trawlers at the wharf in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

Sergeant Judd said the vandals stole items from the boats and damaged vital equipment.

He said this meant the boats were temporarily out of action.

"The technology that is required to run machinery these days relies on electrical and computer equipment and some of that was damaged and that has meant that they're temporarily unable to be used," Sergeant Judd said.

"That's as well as some general vandalism on board which they also did on board the whale watching boat, which is very disappointing."

He said officers from both the Eden Water Police and the Far South Coast Local Area Command were investigating.

"We've got some pretty positive information from CCTV cameras that are around the wharf area," Judd said.

"We've also arranged for a scientific examination on some of the vessels where fingerprints and any DNA evidence that may have been left behind can be looked at.

"Based on that, hopefully we'll have some positive information that may lead to some arrests."

Melbourne: Graffiti & flyer action for the comrades in Chile

11 May - Graffiti & flyer action in the inner-city suburbs of Melbourne for the anarchist comrades facing repression inside the dungeons of the Chilean state. Slogans sprayed for Nataly, Juan and Guillermo* - on hunger strike since April 14th and for Tamara Sol Vergara* and Natalia Tato Collao. Flyers pasted about the case of Tamara Sol Vergara* and the hunger strike of Nataly, Juan & Guillermo.

- Subversive Tagging & Propaganda Cell

*Anarchist comrades Juan, Nataly and Guillermo were arrested in Santiago on September 18th 2014.

Juan is held in pretrial detention in the Santiago 1 prison, accused of involvement in two bomb attacks that occurred on July 13th and September 8th 2014, and were claimed by the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire (Chile); he's also charged with participation in a coordinated attack against two police stations on August 11th 2014 that was claimed by C.I.V (International Conspiracy for Revenge).

Nataly is held in pretrial detention in San Miguel prison, accused of participation in the July 13th bomb attack and possession of explosives. Guillermo is under full house arrest, charged with possession of explosives in relation to the same case.

Juan, Nataly and Guillermo went on hunger strike, demanding:

- the immediate release of compañero Enrique Guzmán;
- an end to assaults and disciplinary sanctions towards prisoners in struggle;
- the immediate transfer of compañera Nataly Casanova from solitary confinement to an "ordinary" prison wing;
- an end to harassment of people who stand in solidarity with incarcerated comrades;
- an end to DNA-based prosecutions.

At almost two months into their liquid hunger strike [June 5th] two important demands were met, Enrique Gúzman was moved from prison to full house arrest and Nataly Casanova was transferred into the 2nd wing of the San Miguel prison - where also comrade Tato (Natalia Collado) is being held - and receives visits twice a week.

*Tamara Sol is a nihilist anarchist held in pretrial detention charged with attempted murder and theft for shooting a bank security guard. She claimed the attack on the guard as an act of revenge for the murder of anarchist Sebastián Oversluij by a guard at the same bank during an attempted robbery a week earlier.



US Political Prisoners Support Aboriginal Communities Under Threat

7 May - Stop the forced closures of Aboriginal communities in Western Australia and all across Australia. Stop this racist, blatantly colonialist violation of international law and the Human Rights of Aboriginal people, who choose to live in small and remote communities, especially those in Western Australia. Stop the land seizures and the land theft from these Aboriginal communities.

This is Jaan Laaman. I am a long held political prisoner in the United States. I know I speak not just for myself, but for other revolutionary political prisoners across the USA, when I say, we stand in solidarity with the Aboriginal people who are being threatened with the closing of their towns and communities.

It was only in early May, that we heard a little information about the Western Australian government's threats to stop all services to remote Aboriginal communities and towns. We think this is outrageous and most likely designed to drive people off their land. By emptying Aboriginal countries of their inhabitants, the land becomes available to the huge mining corporations that are closely linked with the Western Australian government.

The mainstream corporate media here in the United States, has not reported about this ongoing issue in Australia. The USA government, also being a settler state, has its own long ugly history of genocide and theft of Indigenous First Nations land here in the United States. Since the recent large and widespread rallies in cities and towns across Australia, there has been a little reporting about this situation in some U.S. media. I myself, and other progressive voices, will publicly share our knowledge about this Aboriginal peoples struggle for the survival of your communities and the protection of your land.

We know that the State and Federal governments shutting down of the power, water, schools and health care facilities in your communities will cause real suffering. That is why it is important and necessary, and very positive to see, that Australians of all backgrounds, have stepped forward in demonstrations against this government attack. We join with all of you in your continuing resistance to the Australian government's assault on Aboriginal people.

In Unity there is Strength-
From Strength comes Victory!

This is Jaan Laaman and I am coming to you from a prison in the USA



Jaan was a member of the United Freedom Front and is currently serving 53 years for a direct action campaign in the 1980s that targeted governments and corporations that were supporting and profiteering from the apartheid system in South Africa and the military dictatorships in Central America.

Write to Jaan:

Jaan Laaman
#10372-016
USP Tucson
PO Box 24550
Tucson, AZ 85734
USA



Perth: ATM blown up

16 Feb - An automatic teller machine in the Perth suburb of Scarborough was blown up this morning.

The explosion at a group of shops in Doric Street set off alarms after 4:00am. A witness, Vanessa, said she heard the explosion and came outside to see what was happening.

She said she saw the ATM at the newsagency across the road on fire and two people, believed to be men, running away. "It was just a big bang, went out and there was a bit of fire and saw people running away," she said.

"I could only see two. I don't know how many there were, I think they were just running from the blast."

Police said the offenders fled the scene without any cash.

The explosion and fire destroyed the ATM.

Sydney: Six girls charged with vandalism

17 Feb - Six teenage girls, including a 13-year-old, have been charged following a spate of vandalism at Sydney's Central Railway Station.

Police were called to reports of a group of girls damaging property early on Monday morning and picked up six girls, aged 13 to 17, on a train bound for Lithgow.

The group was searched, and graffiti implements were allegedly found on one of girls.

Police said a significant amount of damage was found inside the train carriage and to station facilities.

The five have been charged with a graffiti-related offence, and not having a valid ticket. Two girls, aged 15 and 17, were refused bail.

Maules Creek: Hundreds participate in anti-mining actions



20 Feb - About 250 people gathered at the Leard State Forest in northern NSW from February 13 and 18 to stop Whitehaven Coal clearing the forest to make way for its proposed Maules Creek coalmine.

The project has been plagued by protest for more than two years and more than 300 people have been arrested.

Protesters are furious about the environmental impacts the mine will have on the surrounding forest, which comprises some of the last intact critically endangered box-gum woodland left on earth. The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's assessment of the project has described the forest as "irreplaceable".

The new mine is the largest coal mine under construction in Australia. It is projected to mine 13 million tonnes of coal a year over 30 years. Some estimate it will emit about 30 million tonnes of CO2 a year.

Protesters participated in several actions, including twelve people locking on to bulldozers and a rally of several hundred people at the mine gates. Other activities were held including workshops, music and skillshares. Leard Forest Alliance member Ros said:

"There are precious remnant woodlands proposed to be cleared for coal mines elsewhere in NSW, and other communities fighting large new mines as big as this one.

The thousands of people that have come to Maules Creek will now spread out across the state and they will never let the coal industry and the NSW government do this again."

Kempsey: Teens charged over High School fire

27 Feb - Four teenagers have been charged over a fire at Melville High School in South Kempsey last month.

Fire broke out in the school's Learning Support Unit late on January 29, consuming three buildings before it was extinguished.

The Learning Support Unit was destroyed, with the damage estimated to be worth \$2.5 million.

Mid North Coast Detectives worked with arson specialists from the State Crime Command, launching a lengthy investigation.

Three 14-year-old boys and a 15-year old boy from the Kempsey area were arrested on Wednesday afternoon, and charged with a range of arson offences.

Detective Inspector Steve Clark said the fire has devastated the school community.

"There's a lot of work that will have to go back into re-establishing that facility for the children."

Detective Inspector Clark said all four teenagers are from the local area.

"We were very fortunate, there was some early evidence and information that came through to us early pointing us in the right direction," he said. "As a result of that, and a bit of work from our fellows at state crime command, we've been fortunate to effect some arrests."

All four teenagers have been granted conditional bail, and will face Kempsey Children's Court over the next two months.

York: Vandals target RSL and churches

3 March - Vandals have targeted the RSL and two churches in York during a crime spree in the Western Australian Wheatbelt town.

Local police said four juveniles had been taken into custody after damage to an RSL, two churches, a shop and a home was reported on Monday morning.

First Class Constable Alex Timms said the vandalism had a significant impact on the town.

He said the damage across town was linked. "In the late hours last night or early hours of this morning, juveniles have gone to the rear of the RSL in York and they've gone up to the plaques near the rose bushes," Mr Timms said.

"They've picked up some of the plaques and started to damage them and throwing them around and they've broken a few rose bushes, obviously desecrated that area for the local RSL people.

"Then they used some of these plaques to smash some of the windows and got into the church next door where they've proceeded to steal items out of the church."

York RSL branch president Dave Jones said he got a call from someone at the church next door about the vandalism.

He found about nine plaques had been removed, there was damage to the memorial rose garden and graffiti on the tables.

"To me on a personal level, it's a desecration of something that's pretty special to most of the townspeople. From the point of view of our RSL members it's like, well, jeez, what do we do? Why?"

"It just a complete lack of respect for what the whole idea of the memorial garden is. It leaves you feeling a bit sick in the stomach.

Constable Timms appealed to the community to contact police when they see juveniles running around after hours.

Brisbane City Hall stormed and occupied by Aboriginal protesters



2 May - The Brisbane City Hall has been stormed by Aboriginal protesters and their supporters as part of nation-wide protests against the forced closure of remote Aboriginal communities by the governments in Western and South Australia.

The protesters raised the Aboriginal flag inside City Hall and announced to the authorities that the building was occupied and that they would not be leaving until the media were allowed into the building to attend an impromptu press conference by Aboriginal community spokespersons.

After approximately three hours of negotiations the authorities relented and organized for journalists from several media outlets to enter City Hall and the press conference was held. During the press conference Aboriginal community leaders expressed their outrage at the forced closures and at the lack of positive media coverage and stated that protest actions would be continuing until the government's planned closures of Aboriginal communities were completely scrapped.

Satisfied that their demands had been fully met the protesters then peacefully left City Hall. No arrests were made making it a hugely successful and well publicized action.

Darwin: 'Joy-riding' vandals on a front-end loader

4 May - Joy-riding vandals on a front-end loader have caused more than \$300,000 worth of damage after breaking into the yard of a heavy machinery contractor near Darwin, police say.

The offenders cut the locks of the gate at the Gunn Point road site some time between Saturday night and early Sunday morning, and then climbed aboard a 30-tonne 980K front-end loader.

They rammed a heavy plant grader, and then rammed and pushed a pair of water tankers about 30 metres. Damage to the grader was estimated at about \$7,500 per tyre, she said.

"Offenders have then used the bulldozer to ram a tanker truck to the rear. It then hit another tanker truck in front of it," she said.

"The vehicles were pushed about 30 metres forward causing substantial damage to both pieces of equipment. "Total damage caused by this action is estimated to be about \$320,000."

The offenders used a "universal key" on the front-end loader, according to Aldebaran Contracting spokesman Bede Skewes.

"Someone obviously knew what they were doing and knew how to drive the machines." he said.

Perth: Arrests as police remove Aboriginal protest at Heirisson Island



30 April - Dozens of riot police and City of Perth rangers have again moved into dismantle an Aboriginal camp at Heirisson Island, set up in response to the State Government's plan to close remote communities.

Officers began dismantling the camp just after 11:00 am, pulling down tents and issuing move on notices.

The tents, as well as residents' belongings, were confiscated.

There were angry scenes as a man and two women were arrested, and several others were issued with move on notices.

Activist Gerry Georgatos said there had been 41 tents on the island last night, housing about 100 people including several family groups.

He said the protest was about homelessness, as well as the closure of remote communities.

"This is an indictment on the city of Perth," he said.

"Heirisson Island was a homeless friendly safe space.

"There were 41 tents pitched there, there were a lot of large families who would otherwise be vulnerable on the streets."

Aboriginal elder Mingli Wanjurri Nungala said she was pushed hard by police.



"One police woman was trying to push me away, and then suddenly, this big policeman came like a bull and grabbed me by my shoulder.

"They're the violent ones, they are the criminals.

"I don't want our people hurt, it's wrong.

"This is our land - when I was a young girl I used to come prawning along here."

The camp was set up early last month in protest at plans to close up to 150 Aboriginal communities, judged by the Government to be unsustainable.

Police and the City of Perth removed camping equipment from the site last month, but the camp has gradually reassembled since then.

Premier Colin Barnett said last year the State Government could no longer continue to service remote communities.

The Commonwealth provided funding for about two thirds of the state's Aboriginal settlements with the WA Government funding the balance.

But the Commonwealth has withdrawn its funding, and is handing over responsibility to the State Government over the next two years.

"We saw the police coming, there seemed to be 100 or more, all the vans came, and they came in riot stuff ... and they went to pull the tents down," she said.

Sydney: Indonesian Consulate repeatedly defaced by vandals protesting the plight of Chan and Sukumaran



3 March – A vandal has hurled balloons full of apparent fake blood at the gate of Maroubra's Indonesian Consulate, in the third attack on the site in a month.

The defacing appeared to be a protest against the impending executions of Bali 9 pair Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran.

A "knife-like object" was also found outside the site's side boundary, but it's unknown if this is related to the vandal act.

A consulate guard noticed the red splatter about 5.40am on Tuesday morning, as well as about ten full water balloons with the same substance inside the site's gate.

The consulate's social and cultural affairs consul Akbar Makarti said CCTV footage showed a woman throwing the balloons and deliberately stepping on them to create the splatter.

Mr Makarti said it was the third vandal incident in a month.

A large banner was tied to the front gate reading "clemency for Chan and Sukumaran" and in a separate act multiple signs were tied to the gate reading "hope" and "mercy".

"These were minor threats, this time it was a bit more elaborate that's why the police are here to make sure nothing happens that will or can cause any instability," Mr Makarti said.

"It's really important the public understand we are aware of the frustrations the public may have with decisions our government has made, but we want it to be constructive.

"People can be more effective if they put down in good writing with reasoning and logic their concerns if they have something to say and we can take it back to Indonesia," he said.

Mr Makarti said the most concerning discovery this morning was the sharp object found on Cooper St just outside the site.

"That's what we would consider serious, if it was a threat."

The Australian Federal Police, who were on site most of the day, were investigating the knife discovery.

Consulate staff were told the substance was non-hazardous and opened their doors at 9.15am as usual.

It comes as the Bali Nine ringleaders have left Kerobokan jail, where they have been held for the past decade, and have begun the journey to the island where they will soon be killed.

Chan and Sukumaran were taken from the jail in a heavily armoured motorcade about 8am after hours of preparation by the Indonesian police and military.

Tension has mounted between Australia and Indonesia as appeals to save the men, who respected members from both countries say are reformed, continue to fail.

In a statement about the vandalism incident, Indonesia's foreign ministry asked its citizens in Australia to exercise caution.

"The Indonesian Consulate General warns all staff to be aware, while continuing their jobs, including visa, consular and public service," it said

"The Indonesian Consulate General Sydney has restated the call for all of Indonesian society working in the areas of New South Wales, Brisbane and South Australia to keep on alert and be cautious."

Sydney: Stalemate on The Block as protesters defy trespass notice



3 March - The stand-off between the Aboriginal Housing Company (AHC) and protesters occupying Redfern's infamous Block is continuing despite trespass notices being erected around the property.

The Aboriginal Housing Company posted the trespass signs in February, giving the protesters 72 hours to vacate the property, bordered by Eveleigh, Vine, Louis, and Caroline Streets.

The protesters were still in the tent embassy more than a week after the deadline passed.

New peace talks are scheduled for March 9 after an earlier attempt collapsed amid rancour last week.

The protesters insist they will not move until the Aboriginal Housing Company prioritises affordable housing for Indigenous people.

"The 62 affordable housing units need to be stage one of the project for us to leave," protest spokesperson Lisa de Luca told 702 ABC Sydney.

The Aboriginal Tent Embassy has been occupying The Block for more than nine months, delaying work on the \$70 million retail and housing development known as the Pemulwuy Project, which was due to begin last year.

Wiradjuri elder Jenny Munro has been camping at the site since May 26 last year, to demand more affordable Aboriginal housing on the land, which was purchased by the Aboriginal Housing Company with a federal government grant in the 1970s.

"This is about black housing on black land," At the site on Eveleigh Street up to a dozen protesters are sleeping in the tents each night.

Mr Mundine said the commercial development was needed to fund the affordable housing, but no funding had been found for the low-income housing solutions.

Developer DeiCorp has partnered with the Aboriginal Housing Corporation to deliver stage one of the Pemulwuy project.

DeiCorp was recently involved in controversy when an advertisement for the company's DeiCota apartments claimed Indigenous people had "moved out" of Redfern.

"DeiCota has good rental return and convenient location. The Aboriginals have already moved out, now Redfern is the last virgin suburb close to city, it will have great potential for the capital growth in the near future," stated the blurb on the Great Fortune Investments website.

DeiCorp, a private company owned by developer Fouad Deiri, did not return calls for comment on the Pemulwuy Project.

According to the Aboriginal Housing Company website, the vision of the corporation "is to ensure that Aboriginal people enjoy the same standard of living as all other Australians".

That statement is contentious in the eyes of the protesters.

"This is [the] Aboriginal Housing Company, not Micky Mundine's Housing Company," Ms Munro said. "Our needs, the housing needs, are put last." She said she wanted a peaceful resolution.

"I think it needs to be resolved at a community level and the community still haven't had a chance to have a say," Ms Munro said.

Mr Mundine agreed there was a need for community housing for Indigenous Australians, but said he saw no need to talk to the protesters.

He said construction would start mid year and timing was "crucial" to the project.

"The land belongs to the Aboriginal Housing Company, all the title deeds are in the company name," he said.

"This year is time for us to get on with our priorities; there is a deadline."

Mr Mundine also said action would be taken to remove the protesters, if necessary. "We will get the law of the land in to evict them," he said.

"They are trespassing on the land, and we're just going to move them."

UK: Vandals target Australian war memorial in Harefield



25 April - The main Australian war cemetery in the UK has been targeted by vandals who sawed through a flagpole and spray-painted a memorial on the eve of Anzac Day.

The attack took place at St Mary's churchyard in Harefield in Middlesex, outside London.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC), which looks after the graveyard, said today's Anzac Day service would still go ahead, after repairs had taken place.

"Disgusting, absolutely disgusting" the commission's Barry Rushton said.

"The vandalism is very upsetting for the Commission after all the work that has taken place over the last three months."

Harefield's annual Anzac Day service, which features local school children laying flowers on every grave, started in 1921.

A new visitor information panel featuring smartphone technology retelling WWI stories was also targeted by the vandals.

The CWGC said it was not yet known if the panel unveiling will go ahead.

South Grafton: Pastor devastated by church vandalism



28 April - South Grafton church has been attacked two times in two weeks causing thousands of dollars of damage.

On Easter Monday a group of vandals broke into the back room of the Grafton Christian Outreach Centre on Southampton Road and let off a fire extinguisher throughout the room.

The vandals also made away with tools, a whipper snipper and cans of soft drink meant for churchgoers.

"It took us hours to clean up the mess with a group of the church volunteers," Pastor Baker said. "We think the vandals are a group of youths because they left teen-sized footprints in the white extinguisher powder."

Within two weeks the church experienced another spate of vandalism after locks were jemmied on a back room door, windows smashed and paint splashed all over the room.

The vandals also stole a communion tray and a leg of ham.

The paint took church volunteers a total of 12 hours to clean up, saving the church from paying for a cleaning service.

"What they have done is just callous and cruel," Pastor Baker said.

"I estimate the damages to be over \$1000."

"Between the events here and two robberies occurring this year at our associated building Camellia Cottage, I just cannot fathom how people think."

"It is hard enough staying open these days, but with these added pressures it threatens our ability to survive. It is just sad."

Canberra: Police attack Aboriginal people at ANZAC Commemoration



Ghillar Anderson said that the AFP had overstepped their authority. Both the AFP and RSL must explain their actions and offer an apology. "It was impossible but to conclude that our commemoration group was subject to overt racism, particularly as Fred Hooper, a decorated submariner was prevented from peacefully leading the group up to to the War Memorial. "I was appalled when Senior Sergeant Crank said, 'This is not your day'".

Ghillar Anderson said, "this appalling behaviour by the AFP and that he would now seek advice in respect to whether what had happened constituted an act of racism by the RSL, the War Memorial and the Federal police".

The scene today in Canberra clearly demonstrated that despite promoting that the first world war was to fight for our freedoms and right to exist without fear of tyranny, it has been made very clear that these rights and freedoms do not apply to us as Aboriginal Peoples.

The violent confrontation that was witnessed by all present resulted from Sergeant Crank and his apparent hate for us and what we represented. This action has shown to us that reconciliation is a long way off and that any thought of us being recognised in the Australian constitution is to steal our patrimony.

The Police barricade illustrated the division between us and white Australia. We have a long way to go in human rights in this country.

25 April - Organisers of the undeclared Frontier War's parade today, during the Canberra ANZAC day parade condemned the actions of the Australian Federal Police for refusing to allow 200 Aboriginals and their supporters to peacefully march up ANZAC Avenue to lay a Wreath to Commemorate all those who died in wars, including those who died in the 18th, 19th, and twentieth century Frontier Wars defending their country.

Senior Sergeant Adrian Crank grabbed and assaulted three Aboriginal people without just cause and threatened to arrest them.

Sergeant Crank claimed that the RSL had not issued a permit to the Frontier War's organisers, but according to Aboriginal organiser, Ghillar Anderson, the RSL and AFP had allowed Aboriginal people over the past four years to conduct a commemoration for fallen aboriginal warriors.

What was different this time? Why did the AFP turn this event into an ugly confrontation?



Katoomba: Mike Baird's campaign bus vandalised



11 March - Vandals have targeted the election campaign bus of New South Wales Premier Mike Baird, spray-painting it as it was parked overnight in the Blue Mountains.

The side of the bus was plastered with pictures, symbols and messages, including the words "not welcome" scrawled over the top of the Coalition's campaign slogan "keep NSW working".

The Premier had taken his campaign to Katoomba to announce a \$4 million tourism events package for the Blue Mountains.

Mr Baird made light of the incident, telling reporters: "It is an art town and we're very happy to see art - and sometimes we're not as happy to see art.

"But in any campaign you'll see people express themselves in all types of ways."

Mr Baird said the tourism funding would be used to attract a major event to the region, suggesting its natural beauty would be the perfect backdrop for an opera or musical.

"It's not just about going back to business as usual," he said.

"The Blue Mountains is something that I think is undersold across our overall tourism strategy and indeed the world, and we want to promote it more."

The marginal Blue Mountains seat is held by Liberal MP Roza Sage.

The campaign bus, used to transport campaign staff and media to the region for the announcement, was attacked during the night as it was parked in a local street.

Lismore: CSG protesters dump manure outside Nationals MP's office



12 March - Anti coal seam gas demonstrators wielding bags full of cow dung caused consternation in Lismore on Thursday morning when they staged a protest outside the electoral office of Thomas George, the local National Party MP.

Thomas George is a strong advocate of CSG mining who is also the deputy speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Many of the protesters were from a group calling itself the Gasfield Free Northern Rivers.

"They had manure with them and put it there for their media stunt then left," one office worker said.

"They just turned up, they had the whole footpath blocked. They would have been chaff bags, maybe 25 [farmers]. There was a cattle truck, a few utes."

Jeremy Buckingham said: "Thomas George and the Nationals need to wake up and smell the bullshit. No one wants their gas plan, they want a coal seam gas ban."



Busselton: Arsonist destroys excavator



12 March - The City of Busselton in south-west Western Australia is offering reward to help catch a person who deliberately set fire to machinery on its foreshore.

The fire destroyed an excavator worth tens of thousands of dollars that was owned by a contractor doing coastal work.

Busselton police are investigating the incident but are yet to lay any charges. Mayor Ian Stubbs said he initially thought the offender was someone opposed to the foreshore redevelopment.

"But when we found out there were other small fires lit in the city that evening and some rubbish bins that were set alight, then I realised it could only be an arsonist or a vandal," he said.

He said the city took arson very seriously.

"We'd like to see this idiot caught, to be quite frank," he said.

"We've offered the reward of \$500. The last thing we would want to see is anyone lighting fires anywhere around the City of Busselton."

Goonellabah: Teen hooligans blamed for night of fire as cars torched

18 Mar - Police believe teenagers could be responsible for two of three cars that were damaged and destroyed by fire around Goonellabah within seven hours on Tuesday.

The spate of torchings began about 4.15pm when fire fighters were called to reports of a car on fire on Spring Ave.

A Newcastle Fire Communications spokesman said when the Goonellabah crew arrived they found a car on fire outside a house.

"Crews had to not only put out the car, but protect the house," the spokesman said. "A second car parked nearby was partially damaged due to the heat."

The Goonellabah NSW Fire and Rescue crew waited less than an hour before they were called to the next car fire on Fischer St.

A Newcastle Fire Communications spokesman said the Fire and Rescue NSW Goonellabah pumper was called at 6pm to reports of a car on fire in a carpark underneath units.

When fire fighters arrived they found a Holden Commodore in a garage under the units was well alight.

"That was a big deal because a car on fire in an underground parking space can be a big problem," the spokesman said.

A 13-year-old boy is assisting police in their investigation.

Then at 11.23pm police and NSW Fire and Rescue responded to reports of a car fire and possible shots fired on Cynthia Wilson Dr.

When they arrived they found an abandoned van was well alight and its tyres had exploded.

Police said four youths aged between 14 and 16 wearing hooded jumpers, were last seen running from the scene.

There have been complaints about the van, which had been abandoned and left parked at an angle half-way up the street for several weeks before the fire. In that time, vandals had already given it a working-over, smashing its windows, scattering the road around it with broken glass.

Police reminded parents to know what their teenagers are up to at night.

"Parents, if your 14 - 16 year old was out last night in Goonellabah when he should have been at home in bed, have a think about who he was with and what he could have been doing," said Youth Liaison Officer Laleynya Ryan.

"Sometimes these kids need to face the consequences, to realise the serious harm they are causing."

Corrimal: Vandals desecrate war memorial before Anzac ceremony



20 April – Vandals have damaged Corrimal's war memorial, knocking a large chunk out of one granite pillar and scrawling graffiti on another.

Corrimal RSL sub-branch vice-president Neil McLean said has been trying to get the graffiti removed from the memorial.

Written in neat black handwriting, signed off with the letter A, are the words 'Scab Eater', followed underneath with 'no tears for dead soldiers.' with bottles smashed nearby.

"(It's written in) big, wide, thick, black text and it's soaked into the actual stone," he said.

"I've (even) had a stone mason look at it (and) he's come up with a few other ideas but there's no way to fix it before Anzac Day."

Neil McLean discovered the damage on Saturday morning, just a day before the club's annual Anzac Sunday memorial.

Standing among the scattered broken glass of bourbon and VB bottles, the men spoke of their disappointment and shock, which was magnified upon noticing a chunk missing from one of the granite pillars.

"I think the vandals are just the dregs of the earth to tell the honest truth," he said. "There are no words for them."

According to The Illawarra Mercury, punk band Scab Eater played at Corrimal Hotel on Friday night.

Sydney: Anti-militarist actions

25 April - In the weeks preceding the militaristic orgy of the ANZAC centenary, anarchists made some small actions across Sydney.

Dozens of council banners advertising ANZAC commemoration events were taken from bridges and fences. Anti-militarist posters and slogans were pasted and sprayed across walls throughout Sydney.

A council sponsored ANZAC mural in Enmore was heavily defaced.

On the morning of the 25th, anti military banners were hung from a number of busy highway overpasses.

Some comrades also attended both the Martin Place dawn service and 9am march to leaflet the crowds, telling the history of the strike and subsequent rioting by soldiers in Sydney in 1916.

While these actions are tiny compared to the enormity of the state-sponsored WWI propaganda campaign, we seek to show that there is a long standing tradition of resistance to the official war narrative .

Anarchists and radical unionists fought a bitter struggle against the Australian state and its conscription campaign during WWI, and were heavily repressed for their efforts.

We remember our comrades who were imprisoned for their resistance to Australian state, and we honour them by continuing the struggle.



Sydney: Antifascists confront nationalists



12 April - A 28 year old woman was arrested when demonstrators clashed at the Fairfield-based Halal Food Expo over the weekend.

Anti-muslim protestors had set up outside the expo when they were set upon by a group of leftist demonstrators with an anti-racist agenda.

The anti-muslim group, The Party for Freedom, had police permission to protest, while their opponents, 'Anti-Fascist Action Sydney', reportedly turned up unannounced to take a stand against racist behaviour.

Police were on standby at the event but didn't manage to stop the confrontation, which saw a woman from the anti-Fascist group arrested but later released without charge.

Sydney: Police assaulted while trying to shut down party

12 April - Two police officers have been injured following the closure of a dance party in Sydney involving approximately 1000 people.

Police were called to an abandoned industrial area on McPherson Street, Botany at 10.30pm on Saturday after receiving complaints about the rave.

Police had to be assisted by back-up officers as well as the riot and dog squads to shut down the party due to concerns for their safety.

About 1000 people were eventually moved on, but it is alleged a number of partygoers threw glass bottles at police.

One of these bottles struck an officer who suffered cuts to his head. The officer was taken to Prince of Wales Hospital to have glass removed from his head.

Another police officer was allegedly assaulted by a 26-year-old woman, who was taken to Botany Bay Police Station for questioning.

Perth: Woman charged with squirting breastmilk on cop



14 April - A 26 year old WA woman has appeared in court charged with squirting a police-woman with her breast milk, after being arrested on an outstanding warrant.

The woman faced Perth Magistrates Court on Tuesday accused of assaulting the officer while she was being strip searched at Rockingham police station.

It has been alleged that while she was undergoing the examination while topless, she grabbed her own breast and squirted milk into to the officer's face, arms and clothing.

She was charged with assaulting a police officer and appeared in court on March 31 where she was refused bail.

At Tuesday's appearance, a duty lawyer successfully applied for bail after arguing she had a place to stay and could provide a surety.

The court was told at the brief appearance that the accused had previously been convicted and granted a suspended jail term in 2012 for similar offences to the one she is currently facing. Her lawyer accepted that because of her history, including prior assault of police convictions, the 26-year-old could face a jail term if found guilty of the latest charges.

Perth: Police move in to clear protesters at Heirisson Island Aboriginal refugee camp

13 March - Angry scenes erupted at Perth's Heirisson Island today as police and the city moved to dismantle an Aboriginal camp, set up in response to the State Government's plan to close remote communities.

Dozens of officers, including mounted police and the canine squad moved in on the island at about 3:00pm, after the Perth council gave the group until midday today to remove their belongings.

Firefighters also extinguished campfires, drawing angry protests from the crowd of about 60 people who had gathered in the area, who said the fires were sacred.

Police on horseback lined up metres from the group as council staff loaded camping equipment onto trucks.

The City of Perth left one fire burning in the centre of the main campsite.

The site, near Perth's CBD, had been described by occupants as a "refugee camp" for people displaced by the Western Australian Government's planned closure of up to 150 of the state's 274 remote Indigenous communities.

The State Government flagged the withdrawal of services to remote Aboriginal communities last year, after the Commonwealth announced it was cutting its own funding.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott on Tuesday backed the State Government's plan, saying "what we can't continue to do is endlessly subsidise lifestyle choices".

Noongar elder Margaret Colbung said the planned closures would only add to homelessness and dispossession of Aboriginal people in the state.

"What are they going to do, where are those community's people going to go?" she asked.

"We've got homeless people on the streets here in Perth. They've been here for years.

"No accommodation was provided for them. We attempted many times over the years to find accommodation for those people, and what happened?"

"None of the governments, both Labor and Liberal, came to the party to do anything about it."

She says Heirisson Island, which sits on the banks of the Swan River and is known locally as Matagarup, is a significant site for local Aboriginal people.

"This is an Aboriginal traditional ground. This is traditional birthing ground that belongs to the Noongar people," she said.

"Until they come across with a pact or a treaty or an agreement, this land belongs to the Noongar people."

Noongar elder Ben Taylor also raised concerns about a \$1.3 billion native title settlement currently being negotiated with the State Government.

The majority of police left the area shortly after the final campsite was dismantled.



A WA police statement said officers were present to assist the City of Perth to ensure no breaches of the peace occurred, and that the public officers were not obstructed in their duties.

No arrests were made and no move-on notices were issued, the statement said.

The City of Perth's chief executive Gary Stevenson said the lighting of campfires and use of vehicles on the island breached local laws.

"It's not about the people being there but about the camping and the vehicles"

He said the city would monitor the situation closely over the weekend.

"People that sleep rough, so to speak, are not breaking our laws unless they establish a camp," he said.

"If they have a peaceful enjoyment of the island, there's no action that the City of Perth would intend to take, but if the tents are re-established, if vehicles are driven on the reserve, then that would be breaching the law."

The protesters remained on the island on Friday afternoon.

Heirisson Island was the scene of a major confrontation between police and Aboriginal activists in 2012, after a Nyoongar tent embassy was set up on the site to protest a native title agreement for the state's south-west.

That protest, which also saw people camping on the site for more than a month, was shut down after police removed tents and sleeping gear and moved people on.



Endeavour Hills: College trashed by vandals and squatters



20 March - Vandals have destroyed the recently disused Endeavour Hills Secondary College buildings, prompting calls for more police patrols and action to clean the site.

Casey councillor Rafal Kaplon said the school, which closed in 2012, was inhabited by squatters, and the vandalism was affecting the affluent neighbours' lives.

"It's horrible," Cr Kaplon said. "I went there to see rubbish, then curiosity got the better of me and I was shocked to see what I did."

"The buildings have been literally ripped apart. Floors are broken, there are holes in walls and evidence of squatters using it."

"People were used to living with a well-maintained, operating school and they find it difficult to see it and have to live with it in this condition."

Cr Kaplon said if vandalism wasn't stopped it could encourage more crime.

Endeavour Hills Acting Senior Sergeant Jen McKenna said police patrolled the site daily.

"We have charged people in relation to trespass and damage to property," Sen-Sgt McKenna said.

"Nobody has the right to enter it or graffiti it or cause any other damage to it."

The school was set on fire in November. Department spokesman Simon Craig said: "Our routine maintenance program at all former school sites includes securing buildings, mowing lawns and rubbish removal."

"Unfortunately, vandalism and other forms of antisocial behaviour are an ongoing problem at some former school sites."

Newcastle: Vandals cause damage to \$4.5m Anzac Memorial Walk

10 April - Final preparations are being made to the entry points of Newcastle's newest landmark attraction - the \$4.5 million Anzac Memorial Walk along the city's coastal cliff-top.

The official opening will be on the eve of Anzac Day, as the walkway features silhouettes of soldiers and the names of almost 11,000 locals who served in World War I.

Newcastle Council is still working on the finishing touches to the Memorial Walk, and vandals caused minor damage to some timber work and plantings over the Easter long weekend.

Hobart: Smoking ban causes tensions to rise in Risdon Prison

16 April - There are claims the smoking ban at Risdon Prison is causing tensions to escalate, and prisoners to lose access to teabags and nicotine patches.

One caller to ABC Radio, Anne, said her friend was an inmate, and prisoners were not coping.

"Since the cessation of smoking there has been a problem. I understand the director said that everyone is coping very well, but that's not the situation," she said.

"Prisoners are using nicotine patches with their teabags to get some relief from their nicotine withdrawal, and they're not only using the nicotine patches with their tea bags but they're also using other things like lawn clippings and other bushes."

Anne said the prison had now withdrawn tea bags from prison issue and from the canteen. "So they're penalising all prisoners as a result of this. There's been quite a fair bit of unrest, there was an issue last week about the prisoners getting very upset about this."

An anonymous prison officer texted the ABC to report inmates had also started smashing up accommodation units.

Tom Lynch from the Community and Public Sector Union said he believed the smoking ban was a factor.

"A lot of microwaves have been blown up trying to light cigarettes, and those sorts of things and so there has been the removal of some of that stuff and of course that makes people angry as well," he said.

Mr Lynch said he was worried about what would happen when the nicotine patches were phased out.

Furniture was destroyed in two medium security units during Easter and 16 beds were out of action for three weeks.

Mr Edwards said the inmates involved were on remand from different parts of Tasmania. He said juggling inmates was a constant challenge.

Prison Action Reform Group's Greg Barns said the smoking ban was a factor but the real problem was the continued use of maximum security as a tool of punishment.

"Maximum security the so-called Tamar Unit has prisoners in their cells for up to 20 hours a day, no rehabilitation [and] little exercise," he said.

"It's a cruel and punitive regime."

"They're being sent into maximum security constantly and in my view that is one of the major causes of tension," he said.

Sydney: War memorial vandalised repeatedly



6 April - Politicians and RSL officials are furious after a war memorial at Campbelltown in Sydney's south west was damaged repeatedly last month.

Campbelltown Mayor Paul Lake and Campbelltown RSL sub-branch official Elwyn Spencer have slammed the vandalism of the Mawson Park war memorial on the eve of the Anzac Centenary.

Both men have called for stronger measures to deter such behaviour. Campbelltown Council maintenance workers noticed damage to the glass on the war memorial obelisk on March 6. More damage was reported on March 11 and then again between March 20-23.

Campbelltown police viewed CCTV footage and noted that a group of youths, aged between 14 and 17, were in the location just after midnight on March 6. One youth appeared to smash the glass on the sandstone structure.

Last week, a 13-year-old was interviewed by police and is expected to be given a warning under the Young Offenders Act. Police are investigating the other participants.

However Cr Lake and Mr Spencer said it wasn't good enough. They called for further education on the legacy of Australian servicemen and the story of the Anzacs.

Cr Lake said he would be recommending that the council write to the new Justice Minister and NSW Family and Community Services about tougher measures for juvenile vandals.

"You should not be allowed to damage property and get away with a caution," he said.

Cr Lake said he was disappointed the council had to resort to fencing the memorial in the lead-up to Anzac day.

Mr Spencer also called for stronger anti-vandal measures and better education.

"Give them a history lesson, make them attend Anzac Day and then make them clean the guns and anchor in Mawson Park ... make them do something worthwhile," he said. "People can only take so much from vandals; they need to be pulled into gear. They need to learn they can't keep doing these things."

Det Inspector Greg Inger, of Campbelltown police, said it appeared the war memorial damage was a result of children not understanding its significance.

Cairns: Fire destroys Trinity Bay High School office

9 April - Police are looking for intruders who went on a rampage at two education facilities in Cairns, in far north Queensland, overnight.

Intruders broke into the Trinity Bay High School in Manunda about 1:00am, smashing windows, ransacking an office and throwing paint around. They later lit a fire in an industrial bin at the neighbouring TAFE campus.

Senior Constable Heidi Marek said a fire was also lit at the school just after 4:30am, destroying an office. She said police were investigating reports of three youths leaving the scene.

"The area has been declared a crime scene," she said. "It beggars belief how much this is going to cost the school and certainly not long before school goes back, so it will affect services at that school for a period of time I would suspect."

Newcastle: Protest Halts Coal Train



31 March - A group of people in Newcastle have halted the coal rail line leading into the world's largest coal export port..

One woman from the group, 54 year-old Annette, a farmer from Monaro, NSW, is attached to the tracks in front of the trains, and is refusing to move. Annette says she's acting in support of farmers in the Hunter and Maules Creek who are struggling against mining industry expansion and people everywhere grappling with climate change.

The action comes just two days after the Government released a Discussion Paper on Australia's contribution to the forthcoming climate change treaty negotiations in Paris, proposing that, "For the foreseeable future, Australia will continue to be a major supplier of crucial energy and raw materials to the rest of the world"

Frontline Action on Coal member Alex Walker, said, "This year, there are no more excuses... We've got the advice from scientists that says 90% of Australian coal must remain in the ground if the world is to avoid global warming above two degrees.

"Yet, the volume of coal we export jumped 11% last year.. The government claims it will reduce our own greenhouse emissions by 5%. Well, the coal approved for mining out of the Warkworth coal mine, for example, would make carbon dioxide pollution equivalent to 5% of Australia's domestic greenhouse pollution every year, and Rio Tinto want that mine to expand and continue for another 20 years from now.

"This perverse situation cannot continue any longer. We do not want to have to put ourselves in harm's way to stop coal, but that is precisely what our coal export industry is doing to each and every one of us.



Lismore: Police crack down on Knitting Nannas

4 April - An anti-coal seam gas group on the NSW north coast known as the Knitting Nannas is seeking legal advice after receiving warnings from police.

The group has been told a weekly "knit-in" outside the office of Lismore MP Thomas George is illegal.

Louise Somerville said the group members had been staging the protest every Thursday for almost three years.

"We were quite shocked, and a few of us dropped a couple of stitches actually," she said.

"We were very stunned when three officers approached us.

"After all of this time knitting together peacefully, why? Why now?"

But the president of the Lismore branch of the National Party said it was time to wind the protest up.

John Barnes said the protest had become a threat to public safety.

"I tried to walk through there yesterday and they had chairs against the wall and also against the gutter on the footpath, and there were people standing around in between those rows of chairs," he said.

"I think people are fed up with it." He said now the NSW election was over there was no need for the group to protest.

"Just return the street to the people," he said.

Louise Somerville said it was wrong to suggest the protest action posed some sort of risk.

"The thing with the Nannas is that quite a few of us have mobility issues ourselves. So we're very concerned with safety and keeping it calm."

Melbourne: Pro-refugee cricket pitch invader to be charged



30 March - Police expect to charge a cape-wearing man who invaded the MCG pitch for the 2nd time this month at Sunday's Cricket World Cup final.

The 24-year-old Sunshine man ran onto the pitch before the first ball of the Australia versus New Zealand match wearing a bright red cape and a T-shirt declaring "I [heart] refugees".

The same man ran onto the field at the Australia versus England match earlier in February, also to highlight the plight of refugees.

A Victoria Police spokeswoman said the man was expected to be charged under the sports ground act and fined by the MCG.

Hervey Bay: Aborigines to set up tent embassy in Dayman Park

31 March - region's first indigenous tent embassy will be erected in Dayman Park as indigenous members of the Fraser Coast push for recognition of their land, elders claim.

It's not known when the embassy will be set up at the popular park but Butchulla elder Aunty Joyce Smith confirmed she had given the green light for it to be built.

Members of the Butchulla family gathered at Dayman Park on Monday afternoon to protest the development of sacred ground at Moolyyir Creek.

Late on Monday afternoon, men, women and children gathered only blocks away from a digger excavating the Moolyyir Creek site on Pulgul St.

Protest organiser Samala Cronin said the Moolyyir Creek development should not have gone ahead. "My great great great grandmother is buried there, That land is rich in cultural significance." she said.

Ms Cronin said the indigenous issues plaguing society couldn't continue.

"This land has never been bought or sold, it's just been taken," she said.

"We need to assert our sovereignty as traditional owners. We have more right to this country and we have more right to this land - we need to take back that crown land."

Last Saturday, Aunty Joyce said she was worried artefacts buried at the creek such as axes and graves would be damaged as 25 homes were built.

She said permission was given to the region's indigenous community to consider building the tent embassy in protest.

"Because that is Butchulla county," she said.

"It always has been and it always will."

The development's project manager of Moolyyir Creek declined to comment.



Melbourne: Warriors of Aboriginal Resistance burns butchers aprons in defiance of 'Reclaim Australia' rascists

5 April - On Saturday, Reclaim Australia were held rallies across the country.

These rallies promoted messages of racism, hatred and oppression. Participants were draped in the Australian flag, were covered in swastika tattoos and carried banners with dehumanising messages.

Warriors of the Aboriginal Resistance (WAR) attended the counter rally (Rally Against Racism) and burnt three Australian flags. WAR hold no affinity to this flag.

Australia's national flag is a symbol of racism, genocide and dispossession. It represents the bloodshed of our ancestors at the hands of the brutal colonisation of this land. The Australian flag represents a long history of oppression that we continue to endure under the colonial system. It is entwined with racism and represents an entire colonial nation built on the deliberate and systematic extermination and destruction of the first people of this country.

This flag is founded in the belief of 'terra nullius', the failure to recognise the longest living culture on earth, and its continued use delegitimises our existence and is insulting to our people.

In more recent times, this flag also represents the malicious and racist treatment of ethnic minorities. The flag represents a white nation, a nation built by white people for white people.

Members of WAR didn't just burn the Australian flag, we set fire to an expression of Australian racism in an act of anti-colonial resistance. Burning the Australian flag is an act of defiance against the colonial state, a symbolic gesture of our continual fight for freedom and a message that is hoped to reverberate outside of the monopolised media within this country.

Our ultimate goal is to end the colonial control of our lands and lives and to restore our tribal sovereignty. We want freedom and independence and we will continue to fight to rid our people and our communities of the interfering and oppressive hands of the colonial Australian state. We call on Australian government to cease violent domination of Aboriginal lives and immediately stop all destruction of Aboriginal land and culture across this continent.



Colonial flag burning in Brisbane



Aus flags burning in Melbourne



Brisbane: Gesture of solidarity with the hunger strikers in Greek prisons

On the night of April 2nd we made a belated contribution to the April 1st International Day of Action for our hunger striking comrades in struggle inside the Greek prisons.

In the suburbs south of the city of Brisbane we sabotaged 10 ATM machines with super glue of the following banks: National Australia Bank, Commonwealth, Bank of Queensland, Suncorp, Bendigo and Westpac. We also damaged the windows of one National Australia bank and one Suncorp bank.

No One Is Free Until All Are Free!

Victory to the Struggle of the Hunger Strikers in Greek Prisons!

Immediate Satisfaction of the Demands of the Hunger Strikers!

– Anarchist Vandal Cell, Brisbane, so-called Australia.

*On April 4th the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire prisoners announced the end of their hunger strike, anticipating that the mother and the partner of Gerasimos Tsakalos will soon be released from prison. They also thanked the many comrades who made solidarity actions: "This victory has not resulted only from the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire hunger strike. It is a victory of so many people in solidarity, who have broken the social tranquility with arson attacks, occupations, acts of sabotage, demonstrations, protest gatherings, unwarned interventions, and transformed the cities into a field of insurrectional moments and the occupied buildings into living laboratories of subversive situations."

On April 18th, the eight anarchist prisoners of the Network of Imprisoned Fighters (DAK) announced the end of their hunger strike, considering that a significant portion of their demands were partially fulfilled after the new prison reform bill was passed by parliament.

Brisbane: Graffiti in solidarity with the prisoners on hunger strike



In the small hours of April 3rd around south Brisbane we tagged several businesses and factories with slogans in solidarity with the comrades on hunger strike in Greek prisons. This was done as a small contribution to the international actions in solidarity with the hunger strike.

Victory to the Hunger Strikers!
Long Live the Conspiracy of Cells of Fire!
Love Live the Informal Anarchist Federation!
Lawless Solidarity with the Hunger Strikers!

– Subversive Taggers Cell, Brisbane, territories of 'Australia'.

Hervey Bay: Anzac statue targeted by vandals

31 March - The life-size statue of a Light Horseman at the centre of Freedom Park in Hervey Bay has been vandalised only weeks out from Anzac Day centenary commemorations.

It was unveiled with all the pomp and ceremony local officials could muster - a \$500,000 statue depicting a bayonet wielding Light Horseman jumping an enemy trench during the war. But it seems the bayonet proved too tempting a souvenir for someone, and it was ripped from the statue over the weekend.

"We believe it was there Friday afternoon but was not there Saturday morning according to the footage," said John Kelsey, Hervey Bay RSL president.

"They managed to climb up on it and with this great bolt that goes through the bayonet to hold it onto the horse, they managed to break it off and steal it. So quite a lot of effort has been put into it.

"I think these people didn't realise that there was five cameras on them, so I hope they're running a bit scared at the moment and hope that they hand themselves in.

"With the centenary of Anzac coming up in just over three weeks, and the pride of this nation in our veterans who gave us our freedom, [I can't believe] these idiots can walk around and desecrate a consecrated memorial."

Mr Kelsey says police have been notified, as has the Fraser Coast Regional Council. He is now hoping repairs can be made in time for Anzac Day.

"I've just been this morning onto the foundry in Brisbane who are going to work overtime for the next week and try and cast and mould another bayonet for us," he said.

"Hopefully we'll have it mounted within the next couple of weeks."

This is the second time the statue has been a target for vandals and Mr Kelsey hopes the people responsible will be swiftly brought to justice.

"There is so much pride in this town about this statue because it's not only an RSL project, it's a community project and all the community were involved," he said.

"But you just have these idiots that think they're smart - well the message to those idiots is you're not as smart as you think you are; you're on five cameras."

Police believe a 14-year-old Urangan boy has been charged with wilful damage over the vandalism.



Melb: Arson attack at third Catholic church with links to paedo priests



1 April - Another Melbourne Catholic church historically linked to a paedophile priest has been targeted in a suspected arson attack overnight.

Fire crews were called to St Mary's Catholic Church in Dandenong at 2:30am by the parish's priest, Father Declan O'Brien, who lives in a detached building, and was woken by the sound of smoke alarms.

"I came out of my back gate and at the windows there I could see something reminiscent of the Towering Inferno," he said.

The Country Fire Authority's Paul Carrigg said it was clear to firefighters that someone had broken in and set several areas of the building alight. "When they arrived they found a number of areas of the church on fire, extensive smoke damage in some areas," he said. "It was evident to them that there was entry made near the front door."

It took 40 firefighters an hour to bring the blaze under control.

Fr O'Brien said he found it sickening. "I'm trying my best to hold onto the Christian principle of forgiveness and at the moment as a human being it's very hard to do that," he said. "I can't understand the motivation of wanting to burn a place of worship."

The church was one of eight linked to paedophile priest Kevin O'Donnell, who sexually abused children throughout his 50-year career in Melbourne parishes.

Fr O'Brien said he did not know if the suspected arson attack was linked.

Sharon Fonceca, who has worshipped at the church for more than 20 years, said it was the worst possible time for a fire, just days before Easter. "Why should they take it out on all the priests, it's not right, some of them haven't done anything."

Police are investigating if the suspicious fire is linked to two others in Melbourne's east earlier this week. A blaze almost destroyed the heritage-listed St James Church in Brighton on Monday morning, where paedophile priest Ronald Dennis Pickering worked from 1978–1993.

Another church where Pickering served, St Mary's in St Kilda East, was also set alight on the same night but the fire appeared to have extinguished itself with only the door damaged.

Regional Bishop for the South, Peter Elliot, has told journalists he didn't believe the fires were linked to anger over paedophilia, but were instead the work of a "very disturbed person".

Hollywood actress and former St James' parishioner, Rachel Griffiths, said that church's destruction would be a relief to many because of its history of sexual abuse.

"I was quite elated, like many of my generation, when I heard the news," she said.

Sydney: Some actions in solidarity with the Greek hunger strikers

1 April - In the context of a call for a day of solidarity with the hunger strikers in Greece, some anarchists in Sydney made some small actions.

Various slogans were painted and posters in English and Greek were pasted throughout inner west suburbs where many Greek migrants reside.

Banners were also hung on highway bridges, and a banner was tied to the façade of the Greek consulate in Sydney CBD, where dozens of leaflets were also thrown.

ATM's of the Delphi bank in Marrickville were also sealed with glue.

From Sydney to Greece, against prisons, against police.

Victory for the hunger strikers.

*On March 2nd 2015, combative prisoners launched a hunger strike in various Greek prisons. Their main demands are: the abolition of Article 187 (criminal organisation) and Article 187A (terrorist organisation) of the Greek Penal Code; of the "hoodie law" (acts committed with concealed physical characteristics); of the legal framework for type C prisons; of the prosecutorial provision of forcible taking of DNA samples – and the immediate release from prison of Savvas Xiros (convicted for his participation in the R.O. 17 November) on health grounds.

Those who joined the collective hunger strike include urban guerrillas incarcerated in the E1 wing of Domokos type C prison: Dimitris Koufontinas, Kostas Gournas, and Revolutionary Struggle member Nikos Maziotis – and 9 participants in the Network of Imprisoned Fighters (DAK) and 2 Turkish communists imprisoned in Greece also joined the hunger strike.

Coincidentally, on March 2, police in Athens arrested a number of friends of relatives of imprisoned members of the nihilist guerilla group Conspirac of the Cells of Fire (CCF). In response the imprisoned CCF members in Koridallios prison began a hunger strike demanding that their relatives and the friends of their family members are not remanded in prison.

