

Séminaire de l'antenne Montpellier de Natures Sciences Sociétés Dialogues (NSS Dialogues)

Dans le cadre du séminaire de l'antenne Montpellier de NSS Dialogues (<http://www.nss-dialogues.fr/L-antenne-de-Montpellier>), présentant des recherches aux interfaces société-environnement, nous avons le plaisir de recevoir :

John Barker

Professeur d'anthropologie à l'University of British Columbia de Vancouver (Canada)

Autour d'une séance consacrée à :

*Boom and Bust Environmentalism:
The Rainforest Campaign in Collingwood Bay, Papua New Guinea*

Location: Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Sud
Site Saint-Charles 2, Rue du professeur Henri Serre, Montpellier
Salle 002 « Caryatides »
Date: April 24th, 14h30-17h00
Organizers: Antenne montpelliéraine de NSS-Dialogues
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Le séminaire sera tenu **en anglais**.

Abstract:

During the 1990s, an assortment of national and international non-governmental organizations formed a partnership with the Maisin people of Collingwood Bay in support of their rejection of industrial logging in the primary rainforests inland from their coastal villages. The organizations provided extensive legal, economic, and educational services with the aim of not only empowering the local communities to resist loggers but to develop alternative sustainable local craft industries that would provide a source of cash to this economically deprived and isolated area. The campaign garnered considerable attention for the Maisin both within Papua New Guinea and internationally. And it enjoyed initial success, creating a small boom in the production and sales of indigenous tapa cloth and a major victory banning logging companies from the Bay in the National Court. Once this latter victory was obtained, however, the NGOs turned their attention to other crises, creating a sense of abandonment among many villagers. While the rainforest for the moment is secure, in the last 15 years the villages have become more isolated and impoverished with many villagers feeling they have been abandoned by their former allies. In this presentation, I review the recent history of environmental activism in Collingwood Bay and argue for the need for sustainable support for ecological sustainability.

John Barker is Professor of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. His main research focuses upon social and religious change in indigenous communities in Oceania and British Columbia. His most recent book is *Ancestral Lines: The Maisin of Papua New Guinea and the Fate of the Rainforest* (University of Toronto Press, 1916).