

## Fw: Coup de grace for the Tarnan/ La Boheme.. Earl de Blonville's "flagship" and the Oceanic Research Institute

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From: Kent Madin (rett139@yahoo.com)

To: deblonville@gmail.com

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To those who have followed the Faux-Explorers story, here's and update:

The 100-year-old Swedish schooner "Tarnan" that Earl de Blonville convinced his girlfriend Jennifer Gidley to buy in 2011 and then renamed "[La Boheme](#)" is being destroyed by chainsaw after a decade of unpaid bills owed to a Danish shipyard. Along the way Earl has threatened the shipyard with legal action of various kinds including specious threats that the insurance agency covering La Boheme would sue the shipyard if they destroyed the ship. He also told the local newspapers easily debunked lies about the ownership and condition of the ship. La Boheme was first purchased using Jennifer Gidley's money (Earl apparently had none) to be a floating seminar space in which Earl and Jennifer would be the resident gurus of C-Suite consulting and leadership training. That plan, called [9Sails](#) never sailed farther than having some foul weather gear adorned with the 9Sails logo. Then Earl and Jennifer scrambled for another way to pay for and keep the La Boheme...starting a non-profit called [Oceanic Research Institute](#) that would use the La Boheme as a research vessel. But only AFTER Earl and Jennifer would magically raise many 100's of thousands of dollars from donors to refit the La Boheme with electric propulsion. ORI is now kaput, the website dark and Earl and Jennifer have removed all mention of the obviously doomed, ill-advised venture from their personal presence on the web. They publicly reported receiving a total of \$160k in donations over 5 years, spent it all, and accomplished zero. The administration at Southern Cross University, which blithely anointed Earl and Jennifer with adjunct faculty positions and the credibility of association with an established university, is completely mute on how their incredibly sloppy vetting and poor judgment contributed to this fiasco. La Boheme follows "Courage" (the other sad, abandoned sailboat the Earl bought for one Euro and promised to restore to full glory) into the scrap heap. Courage was also hauled out in 2021 and destroyed after a decade of failure to pay annual fees to the local municipality. For Earl, the "Global Leadership Expert" whose identity hinges on his leadership and business acumen, this has to be well... sort of a virtual pie in the face.

As Earl sails off into the sunset, the story of ORI encapsulates the career of a guy who was always blinkered by his own narcissism. That narcissism, combined with being smart, well-spoken, and charismatic makes him a natural grifter. Yet all of Earl's multiple, grand schemes since the 2000's have failed, failures which Earl blames on everyone but himself. Perhaps Earl's most bizarre and brazen effort to shift blame was his effort to have me, his "cyberstalker", arrested by the Victoria Police. That episode was a good example of Earl's grifter-acumen in that he succeeded, briefly, in conning several VicPol officers who later had to scramble to cover their gullibility. His book, *Savage Coast*, literally chronicles his failure as a

leader and yet he alchemizes that failure into some kind of elevated insight into leadership for the future and even today has rebranded himself as "Naneq Leadership Development". No one, literally, bought that. There is no evidence anyone (since the mid-2000's) ever paid Earl for his wisdom, consultation or advice on leadership.

Here's an exercise in clueless, self-important irony from Earl, appropriately establishing his place as a deluded fantasist, particularly regarding vintage sailboats.

*"Of course, we can never really own a great classic boat: we can only enjoy being the caretakers of maritime history. And in doing so, we become a part of that history, a privilege that ensures the vessel is kept alive with all its stories and significance for future generations". Earl de Blonville*

Except, of course, for La Boheme and Courage now ground into chunks. For the last six years, Earl had been trying to attract donors using deceptive images of the two ships, images photoshopped and from long before Earl and Jennifer took ownership, while they were actually rotting in Denmark. Now the rot has come home to roost.

Attached below is the English version of the print article.  
Link below to a video of the chainsaw massacre.

<https://faa.dk/video/faa/video-on-demand/866ac887-a47f-41bb-b7d3-d25fe5da241d>

Kent Madin  
Bozeman, Montana  
Skype KentinBZN  
+1-406-595-2310



La Boheme cut up destroyed news article and video.jpg

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