

Operation Un-Monastery

Motivation. Why? (10/7/2012)

Ben: *I'd like 2 simple things: the case to be made as to why no building should ever be left empty, secondly i'd like for this to form the foundations of an initial support structure for those that live precariously - allowing for those who do, to do the work they consider rewarding and vital*

Ola: *Personal perspective: To create THAT meetingplace we've been talking about. The melting pot of ideas. Create a frame where we can change things by co-laborating.*

Edwin: *i'd like to move into a big building with a load of ace people and spend the next year or two making radical things happen*

Nadia: *On a personal level I would like to rewire my brain, on a skills and emotional/motivation level to become a more resilient individual. I'd like an outcome of the initiative to be enticing administrations and town councils to view their local Edgeryders as a resource and adopt a supportive attitude towards them.*

Network Mapping

Ola:

Henrik Johansson -> Kaospilot. Starting up a house on a tropic island. Would like the idea.

Petter Mellander -> Former Kaospilot. Work with community building at Hyper Island

Thomas Reibke & Sara Gregersen. -> Kaospilots working with placemaking, social projects. Eg. Roskilde Social Lab.

Sandra Nordström Kinnaman -> Working with a similar project in Sweden (Lindsberg). Newly started 2000 sqm house in Sweden.

Chiara Championeseshi -> Academic report on enabling cities. Can give authority.

Maja Bergstrand -> Smart idea developer who talked about similar ideas with me.

Emelie Envall ->

Jonas Boutani -> Building a film village in a suburb to Stockholm

@monki: Connected with much of hackerspace & Allt åt alla in Stockholm.

Ben:

Dougald Hine > started space makers agency > friendly with multiple councils, has the cultural klout to

leverage between multiple useful actors > will understand the need for this project
Cristina Fraser > ran multiple squat projects with > high energy, open, experience in structuring community and bringing it together > committed to getting it done / will get hands dirty
Matt Drage > has built and run arts space > very good at writing > dedicated
Tom Brock > has squatted for 8 years > can make a space happen, however dilapidated

Nadia:

Alberto Cottica> Theory, Policy clout, Writing and thinking, proposal building and formulation
Vinay Gupta> Brains, long form engaging communication (writing and video talks)
Noemi Salantiu> Community management, organisation, statistical research,
Ola Moller> Simplicity, visualisation,
Ben Vickers > Blue skies thinking
Maria Decida Walhberg> pop culture, ethics and tastemaking, cultural resonance
Sara EL-Imam > teen sis with time on her hands and curious brain
Rebecca Collins> Research, Synthesis, Academic cred
Riccardo Espelt & Adrea Paolollit> research and work with rural communities. See Riccards [post #lote summary](#)

edwin:

s&s folk> network support, art/music production, space, moral/intellectual support, time
adam etc> art/music production, space, moral/intellectual support, time
family network> micro-funding, space, moral/intellectual support, time
london activist friends> network support, art/music production, moral/intellectual support, time, design expertise
work chums> network support, policy/academic advice, art/music production, moral/intellectual support

Goals/milestones?

Project-wise: To create a document/presentations and a define a clear idea that we can pitch in.

Name

Co-monasteries, Commonasteries, Lifestyle Innovation Incubators, Innovation monasteries, Edgeryders monasteries, Honestary, unmonestary, Enablery, Edge Stations

Describing the solution

- Oneliners

- Elevator pitch

- Tags

Creative, innovation, placemaking, interdisciplinary, social, commons,
Creative space, Social dimension, Supportive community, Interdisciplinary environment, Building the commons, No rent
Innovation starts with lifestyle

Reaching out to the Edgeryders communities

Operation Monastery

Why?

Remember that great feeling of being in a room full of people doing interesting, inspiring things in all kinds of areas? What if you could experience that 24/7, whenever you wanted?

This week I had a sensation of not being alone. In a room filled with people doing interesting things I could see a silhouette of the world which our separate projects and initiatives are striving to build. It is becoming increasingly clear that to be able to act together, we need to find ways to support one another in a way that allows us to continue to move forward. Particularly in this weekend we've come to the realisation that existing sources of support for creative solutions to our problems and those of others are not available to us, so we have to create our own. Many of us do not have vast financial assets at our disposal but together we have an immense wealth of cognitive value, important skills and personal resources that when pooled give real potential for transformation. We can change the ways in which we live together in order to enable one another and create contexts in which each of our everyday actions contribute to this transformation.

possible to make that change.

This means changing the ways in which we live together, in order to enable one another and to create a context in which each of our everyday actions contribute to this transformation.

What - The solution

The (un)monastery is a place for creative crazyness. It's a safe space in which the lunatics are free to takeover the asylum, this our project mayhem. Many Edgeryders are doing it or have done in the past shorter period of time. Ben, well...read for yourself :) Nadia lived on an Icebreaker,

The residents don't pay for living at the monastery but in return the residents give value back to the surrounding community/society.

Old

While writing this I have a feeling that it is possible to move beyond
Weaving through several of the conversations I participated in a wish to. During the short period of the conference, we created together a moment of clarity, that although there
What if you could
What if you could do that at a speed that doesn't feel like you have to cram it into two days?
What if you could see the
wouldn't it be great if we could put our ideas and skills to practice to
Wouldn't it be great if we could spend more time together, ...but to make this happen this is what we need to do

Call for participation in:

1. Making a case: talking to people who might believe in the idea and have them help us identify questions that need to be answered from perspective of participants, hosting cities and local community members
Identifying a place
2. negotiating a deal with local stakeholders
- 3.
4. Starting the space
5. Living in the space

Basic Notes:

EdgeRyder buildings in second tier cities - start in cities with weak H&S
Live/Work space - combining the hack/hub/

Manifesto / visionary

Do crazy things for a future we deserve.

Groundbreaking

Breaking New Frontiers - going to places in small numbers and creating real change

- Intersecting projects/possibilities combined with placemaking

- Minimal infrastructure (electricity and water) - the more dilapidated the better?
- Pioneering cleantech and greentech materials and technologies

Alternative funding models:

Traditional

Alternative sources of support

More effective source of funding for Edgeryders...social innovators or people who's projects are dedicated to the greater good and that may or may not be profitable but generate value for the communities around them....or that enable people to be resilient while investing heavily in experimental projects. and entrepreneurs and startup styles - using Edgeryders current research to make a case for alternative funding

Creates meaningful forms of existence for those currently reliant on state support, and who's skills or what they otherwise have to offer may not be recognised or rewarded by the labour market.

Having an impact: breaking new frontiers not going to the major cities but to places where a small number

of EdgeRyders can make a big impact and build prototypes of the future/social and physical environments we can be proud of being a part of

Case Study Examples within ER:

Access Space - James

Mapping Resource - Mattias

Philes, Muldines, network economies, Las indias- Eimhin

Impossible Cities

Star & Shadow - Edwin

Case Study Examples outside ER:

Betahaus, Christoph Fahle <christoph@betahaus.de>

Copenhagen Place, London (Ben to do this)

Meanwhile Spaces > Indy Johar > 00:// <http://www.architecture00.net/>

Space Makers Network > Dougald Hine <http://spacemakers.org.uk/>

Metalab, Vienna

Kulturkampanjen / Cyklopen, Stockholm (Viktor Marx)

Creating value for the local community:

Providing services - Education

Diversity, drive, entrepreneurship,

Map each project's impact using basic Network Analysis - Quantify the outcomes

Modeling food security for local community and urban environment

The

Checklist of assessing locations (Crowdsource from ER):

Location

- Good connections to other countries/cities (Train & plane)
- Central to the city - well placed for community integration
- Not too cold or dark (but location in the north possible but not as only choice.)
- Especially sunny or near a river (hydro) - are we building hydro power?!
- Fertile soil and no water shortage

City council

- Lots of excess capacity (publicly owned buildings)

Facilities

- Internet: existing or good way to bring in fast internet into it.
- A room that can become a good kitchen / or are one already. (many people might visit)

Culture

- Not many skinheads around.

Network

- Places where Edgeryders already are present or have network.

Potential places (contact persons):

- Second tier cities

- Thessaloniki, Greece (Spyros Pengas)
- Marsala, Sicily, Italy (Ottavio)
- Spain?

More suggestions for:

Potential Persons/ allies

Help in Making a case: Carlien Roodink

Lindesberg, place under making in Dalarna, Sweden. Connect with them?

Dougald Hine

Making the space

Important to include people that not only create project that interact with the local community but also include people that could be important for the placemaking.

- Carpenters
- Electricians
-

Working group

Nadia El-Imam @ladyniasan nnegash@gmail.com

Ben Vickers @benvickers_ functionalrectangle@gmail.com

Ola Möller @olamoller, olamoller@gmail.com

Alberto Cottica @albertocottica

Caroline Paulick-Thiel @riversinseas

Edwin Mingard edwinmingard@live.com

Intersecting ideas

- USE EDGERYDERS AS A WAY TO DEVELOP P2P RESEARCH BASE TO SUPPORT ALL OF OUR PROJECTS.

- What needs to be changes/ improved for platform to be useful for research

Researchers - Put forward questions from the community for them to answer and build research around to further bolster funding applications

Ideas:

innovation is driven by mild mindshcoks from conceptual fucks

Edge Surfing

we have to allow for emergence / lateral thinking between individuals

These spaces will be a way to create visibility >

This is not a single issue agenda space > geopolitics &

make no small plans

the monastery brings benefit to the community > brings a value that isn't explicit or quantifiable > but communities act to support their existence (this makes the metaphor useful)

we shouldn't over build this > the belief that you need concrete structural models to make these

spaces work > example the failure of the hub and innovations incubators & “changemakers”
widely opened virtually and physically
places should we places we wouldn’t move to as individuals
not to have a plan but to have an intention > emergent design > to be developed from within other
communities > to avoid the crash landing of groups into other people’s spaces (basics of
gentrification)
large cities are not well routed
network analysis question >

References:

NYC artist group in pittsburgh

Problems:

avoid high concentration of set skillsets in inappropriate cities

What can we do? Points raised within the session!

Edwin: what your offer is vs > find somewhere to take a big risk > find somewhere and do it > document it
and qualify everything

Identify ER’s already in the community who can get excited about it where they already are

Using wider network >

Go in through local resident groups authorisations > good links

Share the idea with some of the authorities that might participate > to get their feedback

Sooner the better > to keep the momentum going

Connect with Hackspaces, polish spaces aren’t so focused on computers and tech > connect with
squatters and hackers, with a clear message, we’re trying to subvert the local municipalities > we can not
name it a squat > we’d love to work with you.

Create a demand from the local people, to get the value added

Embrace the different modes in which individuals manage and execute this project, top down and bottom
up > DO NOT CRITICISE OTHER INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR APPROACH

We need tools > more models to adapt > create widgets and apps style thinking

Frame the problem from different perspectives > what are your values and perspective > you need those
running the city and individuals - they don’t see the problem in the same way - officials don’t want to look
stupid. What is the argument? Remember you are dealing with representatives of conservative forces.
Mayor cannot do what ever he likes. (UNDERSTAND which officials have power levers in different
contexts)

Avoid asking money at all costs, harnessing resources that are currently unused. Maximum

Core offerings:

USE THE MEETUPS IN OTHER CITIES TO COMMUNICATE THE MESSAGE OF THE MONASTERIES AND

STRATEGY: SELF ORGANISE EDGERYDER EVENTS IN POTENTIAL CITIES OF CHOICE AND INVITE INFLUENTIAL OFFICIALS

PERSONAL NEWSPAPER - BLOGGER AND JOURNALISTS SUPPORT TEAM
FOR LEVERAGE (I.E landlord threatens to raise rent and we say "oh no the paper will be upset and it has a readership of 10,000)

EQUITY STAKE FOR INVESTORS > WHO LEVERAGE AND PROVIDE RESOURCE FOR THE PROJECT

Angel Investment in the form of social assets?

GET 10 PEOPLE TO CONGRATULATE THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN ON THE ER EVENTS HOSTED >
Extend to press

Health and Safety - leverage and research against

EDGEMONKS

Needs driven living > from low level infra

Funding > low cost and low risk for meaningful innovation,

CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH PROJECT
FUNDED WITH SOCIAL ASSETS TO PROVE THE VALUE OF NEW SOCIAL ASSETS
NETWORK ANALYSIS ON AN EMERGENT COMMUNITY THAT REPRESENTS ITS OWN SOCIAL ASSETS

Individuals with large savings that see no return, could be sold the idea that by putting life savings into public social assets.

Remember the warehouse space outside of London! Airhanger > contact Edmund

Strategy:

Making friends with institutions and officials that are in places where EdgeRyders already are.

Building alliances with bloggers and journalists, that can ensure the project becomes something that's known to be a good thing to be associated with.

This project needs to live somewhere:

What we can actually do right now as individuals?

Research other projects and models exist - what would the email be, the call to action.

Create document with a list of opportunities

Stage an event with a more specific agenda - live conversation is essential

Use the meetups as mini proposal incubation spaces (so we can meet live) - Need a one page document to circulate or link to go in those sends outs.

Create a policy document - do this as an event, over 3 days.

Approach if you suggest something - you are responsible for doing it.

Regular online hangouts - Rolling agenda document

FIND THE 10 PEOPLE - because they will make, personal investment - consider 2nd cycle (be clear)

2 Individuals can act single person? Shared Role.

Event that prototypes the project - maker event where we roleplay and physically build the project

Building emotional ties to place through events.

Scouting mission across europe - hitchhiking for the building

RSA produces scoping reports - next event, PLAN THIS SOON

Put out calls for bids from towns and cities to have us come be resident

Which is the most EdgeRyders' friendly city to live in, COMPETITION there are real problems to be solved , award ceremony is the event, give prize to the mayor of the town

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Sania

Nadia

Edwin

Competition

Enabling Cities

Imminent Needs!

1. call for Edgeryders in 2nd tier cities
2. Set up criteria for most enabling city awards
3. Put up the site
4. House of natural fibres: democratising science, citizen science learning

Torino Paolo professional bid person, Nadia gets in touch with him

Plan:

put together a sexy "if you win you will get this" offer: You get to give us a building :) Profiles of what individuals have done as examples, as sample of what edgeryders are interested in.

1. put out a call for bids
2. do scoping report on cities that put out bid, spend some time hanging out and meeting officials and local creatives - figure out who's available for this on 2 week cycles
3. Produce scoping report from perspective of young people: media outlet, on our website conduct interviews goes up in time we're there..first person accounts, about how they are living...building relationships with other edgeryders
4. Cost: cover travel and accommodations for 10 people in the city for period 2 weeks-month. 2 rounds of x5 there for 2 weeks.

For Reference:

House of natural fibre
citizen science, learning by sharing, by doing by

Carolien Achoka

Achofa in Portugal- ask Carolien Paulick Thiel about the example she mentioned
ask her to write a report

unmonastery- tech monk movement >> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_CgZ2qkRSp0

Mimicing the olympic bid: model for the language: <http://www.gamesbids.com/eng/>
http://www.specialolympics.org/2015_world_games.aspx
<http://www.olympic.org/>

IMPORTANT REPORT (By NESTA)

This publication presents 25 case studies of the civic economy - rooted in age-old traditions of the associational economy but using new organising tactics, ways of connecting with people and approaches to collaborative investment. http://www.nesta.org.uk/assets/features/compendium_for_the_civic_economy

EYC

<http://europeanyouthcapital.org/>

<http://www.bragacej2012.com/>

<http://www.thessaloniki2014.eu/>

The short term benefits, to mention only a few, are an increase in tourism and international respect, not to mention a sense of accountability and involvement shared by the youth that helps toward a healthier happier community as a whole. As for the long term rewards, an involved youth lead to committed and productive members of society who are more likely to serve their communities interests as their community has served theirs.

The 'European Youth Capital' (EYC) is the title awarded to a European city for the period of one year, during which it will be given the chance to showcase, through a multi-faceted programme, its youth-related cultural, social, political and economic life and development. The EYC initiative encourages the implementation of new ideas and innovative projects, with regard to active participation of young people in society, and seeks to present a role model for the further development of youth policies in other European municipalities.

Website

Requirements

Editable / supported with CMS

Submission Form

Content / Pages

Front Page > Video / Copy Summary

Make a Bid

About

Who are the "EdgeRyders" > Profiles / Example Projects

2nd Phase

Website becomes a base for Scoping Reports / Citizen Journalism / Interviews / Relevant Blog Posts about "new civic economy" "social innovation" (ETC), plans for towns, announces winning bidders

Scoping Reports:

Heading under >>> **EdgeRyders Guide to New Europe**

RSA Scoping Report:

http://www.thersa.org/___data/assets/pdf_file/0004/285403/RSA_Peterborough_WEB.pdf

Community Footprint:

<http://www.thersa.org/projects/connected-communities/the-community-footprint-shared-value-for-business-and-communities>

all large stores should have community hub within the shop/ hub

Report Content and Formating:

Sexy Visuals

Network map of hubs within the community (soft network analysis) - Overview of the city
Comprehensive map/directory of whats going on and when - Online and Off(?)

Most second tier cities are not aware of the resources, edgeryders amongst them. takes outsiders to see things with new eyes

how to harness what you already have to make it more attractive to real innovators

angle it on brain drain without sounding too... (Avoid pompous or derogatory / EMPATHETIC)

Possible Partners

<http://www.theciviccrowd.org/> > Tessy Britton

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EdgeRyders Design Assets:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/089uzxykoiwll83/-fSTtB56Hd>

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3tqkr2gfd6ctcyc/LeSvMj3cG7>

Idea posted by [Bembo Davies](#)

CLUSTERS OF ACTIVITY

The idea of a monastery goes beyond skill mapping - to skill trapping .

Ola's question then begets a second; how can we stimulate compatible constellations of ERs to find one another in synergic projects?

While we bash this one out, I'm trying to do my Homework... and feed the idea of **Edgestations**.

('Co-monastery' won't work as a name. The 80% of our languages that borrow heavily from Latin will have all local press making coma jokes before we even get started.)

EDGERYDERS NOMADIC RESIDENCY

Visionary Activism

Re-BOOTING COHESIVE DEMOCRACY

Our Nomadic Residency initiative invites local government to host nodes of cutting edge social renewal.

A typical three-year residency houses a fluid collective of interrelated project workers with access to a network of global tools.

The group's steadily expanding ring of projects are designed to interact with local community based initiatives and provide visceral stimulus for community rebuilding between youth and a culture of visionary governance.

(need to say something on infrastructure - practical permaculture, hexayurts, low eco-footprint of first tier needs, then evolution to address outer tier concerns through colaberations with local community.)

EDGERYDER PROTOTYPE PROJECTS:

People in our network are involved in diverse projects both digitally and 'analogue' communities.

Here we should provide a selection of examples of member's pursuits under development : (Let's find 4-5 key ones which address complementary facets of 'our' concerns. The process of distilling which projects to headline is in itself growth stimulating.

As a mock up, i offer this list...)

- **Participatory Budgeting** -- nurturing the economic commons. (provide best link...)

- **Betwixt Polarities** - a dynamic 'human rite' that provides procedural grounding and mission alignment for citizen initiatives (see our brilliant notes after workshop with Rysjek++ that responded to Saturday's desire for tangible positive and negative totems. I'll put this up as seperate mission...)
- **'State in a Box'** - Conceived by Vinay/Arthur? as the ultimate survival tool for local government in acute transition, this project invites to serious constructive re-think of our political culture. It needs augmenting with 'state of mind in a box' -- actions to rewire social cohesion among the citizenry.
- **Mattias's web** -- need more info on this but it sounds like a valuable library tool.