

THE CASE MOTH PROJECT

At a conference towards the end of last year I was in a group discussing education – in particular how to get the reconciliation message across to school children. The idea of a message stick going from school to school was discussed.

Thinking about this concept later I felt that a message stick could carry a message but not receive one, and so the idea of a case moth was born – a giant moth on whose wings thought and messages could be written as it moved from school to school. Finally it could be publicly displayed for all to see.

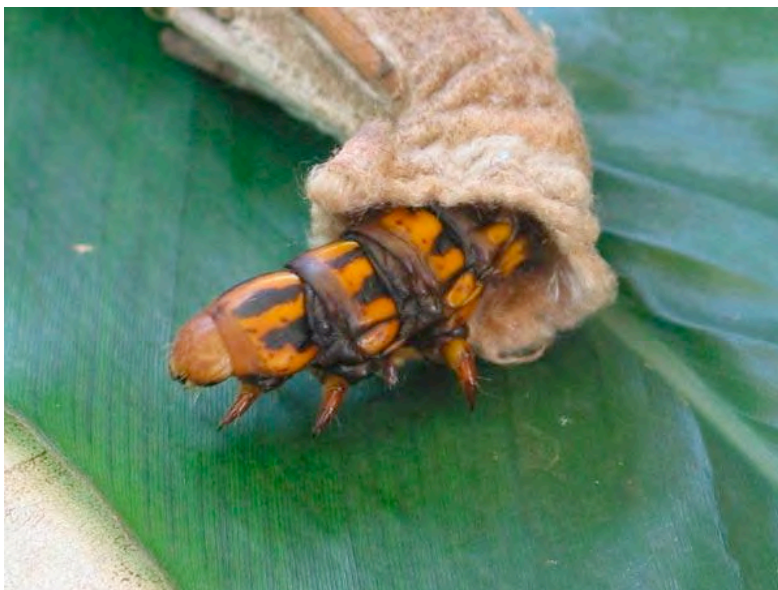
I like the thought of the emergence of moths (ideas?) from a confined space and being able to spread their wings (messages).

As well as the giant moth it has been decided to also send a real (empty) case moth and some information about their life cycle to encourage further study of these remarkable insects.

The giant moth's case is about 1 metre long and the moth's wingspan almost 2 metres across. The wings fold down so that the moth can easily slip into the cocoon. It is interesting to note that these moths are also known as bag moths, and, as the female moth lives in the case, does this make her a bag-lady?!

If you would like your local school involved in this project please speak to the teachers and others to encourage involvement, or contact me for further information

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Images are from: <http://www.usyd.edu.au/macleay/larvae/psyc/elong.html>