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I hope you have enjoyed this edition of COMPASS. The articles and contributions made by everyone have been a great encouragement to me. It makes my job very rewarding and I hope that the articles will continue to roll in. Thank you everyone.

*The points of view in this publication are not necessarily the views of the editor or the staff at St John's. Please pass the magazine on to a friend and encourage them in their faith as I hope those who have shared in this issue have encouraged you.*

## BOOK REVIEW *by Marg. McNair*

### The Jesus I Never Knew By Philip Yancey

Would you like help to find the Real Jesus? This interesting book will help you to do just that. The author, a respected Christian writer, takes us on his very personal search for the REAL JESUS. In his research, the author tries to imagine he is there in Israel at the time of Jesus' life. He likes to imagine that he is in the crowd that surrounds Jesus wherever he goes.

He watches Jesus as he heals the lame, the blind and the sick. He hears him preaching, nearly always on Love, Love for God, Love

for others and Love for yourself. He hears Him preach the Beatitudes—The Rules for Living. He is there when Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane before the crucifixion. He hears the crowds yelling for Jesus' Blood. This book takes you step by step along the road that Jesus took during his lifetime on earth. When you have finished this book you will know the REAL JESUS so much better and you will give thanks for His life, His Death and His Resurrection. I found this a wonderful book, written in easy to understand language. I recommend it to you.



St. John's  
 Anglican  
 Church  
 157 St. John Street  
 Launceston

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# COMPASS SHOWING THE WAY

*"LET US PRAY ..."*

*From the Rector - Peter Kemp*

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What a privilege it has been for Beverly and me to share in ministry



with the people of St John's Launceston. We have appreciated the warm welcome and friendship extended to us. Obviously, our special delight is always in the Christian fellowship we enjoy: worship, prayer, bible study and in the work of evangelism.

Prayer is basic in the life of the individual Christian and of the

church. In Ephesians 3:14-21 we read Paul's prayer for the church in Ephesus.

He concludes with these words:

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us; to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever !  
 Amen*

*continued page 2*

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The infinite ability of God to work beyond our prayers, thoughts and dreams is by his power at work within us as individuals and as the church. **It is the power of the resurrection which is at work!** Why then, are we so often powerless? Is it that we simply do not ask? Could it be that we do not believe? Do we in fact say many prayers but rarely pray? Do we ask for the wrong things? Whatever the reason, most of us readily acknowledge that evidence of God's power in our lives is often in short supply.

Will you commit yourself to pray regularly and systematically for the ministry of St John's and for your part in it? The Parish Consultation Report has now been received. Pray for all who will consider its recommendations. Pray that whatever action is taken will be in accord with the purposes of God for His church. Our God is able to do more than we ask or dream. He simply waits for us to pray.

*Peter Kemp*

### A SIMPLE PRAYER — *Ruth Bell Graham*

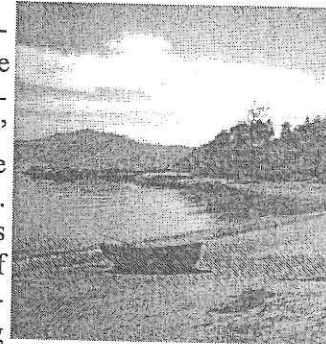


*Lord, when my soul is weary and my heart is tired and sore and I have that feeling that I can't take it anymore; then let me know the freshening found in simple childlike prayer, when the kneeling soul knows surely that the listening Lord is there.*

*(Submitted by Tiny Kennedy)*

## COLES BAY EXPERIENCES—*Audrey Sifleet*

The East Coast of Tasmania is my favourite area in the state particularly "The Fisheries" nestled beneath the 'Hazards' at Coles Bay. If the sun shines it is great to soak it up; if the rain comes an excuse to light the log fire; when the wind blows the ocean presents a fascinating spectacle, I have had so many special times there. The Animal Nursery Party—one evening we want outside to feed the animals as usual Two wallabies with their babies and Father Wallaby were waiting. They especially enjoyed banana skins and carrot tops so were prepared to be hand fed. Soon Mother Possum comes walking down the hill with baby clinging on; she carefully selected apple, staying to share friendship. Suddenly to our surprise a young spotted quoll appeared to join in the fun. Running between the other animals and across our feet she spurned the food—not to her liking, but obviously enjoyed the company.



This was a very special occasion. For fifteen minutes we were privileged to be part of their family as they interacted with each other and the 'big people'.

All this just outside the back door!

### *Easter Day*

This year the day was sunny and warm. The ocean was calm—too calm for the boats taking part in the 'Three Peaks Race'. Midmorning we drove the five k's to the town to hear the latest news of the boats, many other people were there studying the "Expected time of Arrival" Board. Far in the distance four yachts were becalmed but the message on the board from Camp Quality yacht "becalmed Cape Forester. Enjoying the fishing," said it all for them. After completing our "meet the people" session we retired to the coffee shop and watched the arrival of three boats from there;

*(continued on page 4)*

## COLES BAY EXPERIENCES

great interest and much clapping for the three pairs of runners as they set off, complete with their survival back pack kit to compete in the long and arduous mountain run. We then felt we had been part of the "Three Peaks" as we returned to 'The Fisheries' for lunch. In the afternoon we once again travelled to the town, this time to attend Easter Day worship in the Community Hall. This consolidated Easter, I think, for the

large group present. People were generally in their boating or beach clothes, some comfortably barefooted, all looking healthily suntanned. It was a wonderful fellowship time together, so casual yet so obviously a significant part of everyone's Easter Day; to cease their particular activities and wend their way to church. I continue to feel very privileged to be part of so many Coles Bay experiences.

## WAIT AWHILE

*If after Church, you wait awhile,  
Someone may greet you with a smile.  
But, if you quickly rise and flee,  
We'll all seem cold and stiff, maybe  
The one beside you in the pew  
Is, perhaps a stranger too.  
All here, like you, have fears and cares.  
All of us need each other's prayers  
In fellowship we bid you meet,  
With us around God's Mercy Seat*

## SPREADING INFECTION

Happiness is an infectious disease —why not be a carrier?

## 7 WAY FM LAUNCESTON CHRISTIAN BROADCASTERS INC - Judith Hughes

WAY FM is a Group of Christian men and women who have such love of our Lord Saviour that they wanted to witness for God through a Christian radio station. WAY FM was formed at a meeting in this church of St. John Launceston. Some parishioners attended among whom my friend Janice Headlam and myself were present so we are happy and proud members of this fine Christian association. Their special programmes cater for all ages from young children to older people every day of the week. Every Sunday evening there are lovely old favourite hymns played and some with more modern messages or spiritual songs for those who are younger. At 9 am -

12.00 noon, there is a Mal Garvin spot in which he interviews a special guest, and a competition—the prize being either a CD or a book. On Saturday between 10.00 am and 11.30 am there is a session for people in nursing homes etc. to request favourite songs and music—an excellent idea, as the program gives these folks such pleasure and is a talking point, something to brighten their lives. The evening news session is relayed from Southern Cross TV daily. There is even a special serial for young adolescents called "Breakthrough." This radio station witnesses in a wonderful way to the people of Launceston. Well done, 7 WAY FM 105.3.

## My Friend?

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

My friend, I stand in the judgment now and feel that you're to blame somehow..

On earth, I walked with you day by day and never did you point the way.

You knew the Lord in Truth and Glory, but never did you tell the story. My knowledge then was very dim; you could have led me safe to him.

You taught me many things, that's true; I called you "friend" and trusted you, but I learn now that it's too late, you could have kept me from this fate.

We walked by day and talked by night, and yet you showed me not the light. You let me live, and love, and die, you knew I'd never live on high.

Yes, I called you "friend" in life, and trusted you through joy and strife. And yet on coming to the end, I cannot, now call you "My Friend."

Anon

## THE CURATE'S CORNER -

ARE YOU A JUST A SPECTATOR? - *Scott Sargent*

I love watching the Australian Cricket team play, both one day cricket and test matches. At the moment the Australian Cricket team is the best in the world. It is not



that they have the best superstars, although they have some. The reason is that they are the best team. The old sports saying is "A champion team will always beat a team of champions."

There are a number of reasons they are a great team. Firstly they know what their goal is. It is to win. Cricket is pretty simple; the team that gets the most runs wins.

Who sets the goal of the church? What does a winning church look like? At the end of Matthew's gospel Christ tells his followers to go into all the world and make disciples (Not converts, but disciples). Christ sets our goal. To be a successful Church in Christ's eyes is not to hold the best service or have the best music or even the best

preacher. It is to make disciples and if we as a church are not seeing people come into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ and then having their lives transformed by the gospel, then we as a church are losing.

Thankfully at this church we are seeing these things happen to a limited degree through ministries like the 'Alpha' course. Hopefully the new follow-on series "A Life Worth Living", will help grow our new Christians into more mature ones.

It seems that just about every ball Shane Warne bowls is greeted by a chorus of "well bowled Warnie" and "well bowled Shane". This is because great teams encourage each other and there is no place for jealousy here. The fact that Glen McGrath has just been hit for 12 runs off the previous over doesn't stop him encouraging Shane as he bowls.

*(continued page 7)*

## ARE YOU A JUST A SPECTATOR? *(continued)*

This is because the players in a great team know that the team is more important than the individual. As a church we can learn from this example and be more encouraging of one another. We should take the time to build each other up. Tell the person who does the reading that you appreciate their efforts. Or if you're a worship leader or preacher encourage your fellow leaders and preachers. When Shane finishes his over he hands the ball back to the captain who gives it to another bowler. Shane then helps the new man by encouraging him. This is how Church should work.

The other things great teams do is recognize the strengths and weaknesses of each other. Glen McGrath can't bat. Everyone knows that and Steve Waugh will never send him out to open an innings for Australia. Similarly Michael Slater will never spearhead the bowling attack. A good captain knows his players' capabilities and works with his players' strengths. To be a great church we too must recognize and affirm each other's gifts. People should only preach if they have that gift.

The pastorally minded person should set about building up the church by being pastoral.

Lastly, a great team requires everyone to be committed to the goal and involved in achieving it. There is no room for spectators in a great team. All do their bit according to their abilities. This also must apply to our Church if we are going to make it a winning and great church.

Spectators are the people who turn up just before the game. Only get involved when it's their turn. They judge things in terms of performance. "If it's going well I'll be there. If everything is not to my liking I'll leave," because they are not committed to the goal and do not see themselves as responsible for helping achieve the goal. A spectator's involvement is only verbal. They never actually get to kick the ball or hit the winning run. Spectators are always experts after the event. Sadly some churches are full of spectators. Saddest of all, spectators never get to hold the trophy.

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## THE REV'D JOHN YOUL—*Alan Jones*



Settlement in the Launceston region proceeded very slowly in the first years of the nineteenth century: delays in development were almost entirely due to changes in governmental policies, made hundreds of miles away, in Sydney Town (Van Diemen's Land was legally part of New South Wales at that time) and to shifts of policy half a world away, in London. Indeed, the survival of our northern capital could be said to be a tribute to the stubborn persistence of the pioneer settlers.

From the early 1820's however, Launceston became firmly established as the most important northern centre. Among other signs of this growing stature was the building of the first Anglican church, dedicated in due course to Saint John, with Revd. John Youl as the first minister. John Youl, then aged about 50, had had previous experience in missionary ventures to the South Pacific: and had also assisted the Colonial Chaplain in Sydney Town and outlying settlements. He had the faced hostility of indigenous South Pacific powers of the 1700's which alternated between war and armed peace at the that time.) Originally ordained an Independent minister, Youl was ordained and commissioned by the Church of England in 1815 for further service in New South Wales; and in 1819 he brought his missionary zeal and his devout spirit to northern Van Diemen's Land, first at George Town (at that time intended by Governor Macquarie to be the chief settlement, and to supersede Launceston) and then to Launceston.

During the times that the church of Saint John was being built, it is on record that he made vigorous efforts to call people to worship; the

## THE REV'D JOHN YOUL— *(continued from page 8)*

place of worship was a former blacksmith's forge or shop in the track already known as Cameron Street and services were announced by John Youl beating with mallet on an iron barrel hung from a post.

By the end of 1825, the church of Saint John was sufficiently well completed for Youl to conduct the first in a continuing calendar of thousands of services, lasting unbroken and unbreaking over nearly two centuries. As a free settler Youl was granted a large area of land for pastoral development: His ecclesiastical responsibility extended over the region between Tamar Head and Norfolk Plains and, travelling by horse over his widespread parish, he was well-known for his gentle, tender, affable, humane and engaging disposition. (So wrote the Northern Correspondent of "Colonial Times" March 30 1827, reporting the death of John Youl on March 26.)

It is quite by coincidence that the Church of Saint John bears the name of the first minister, or pastor, Revd John Youl. Fortuitously also, high on the stone – carved shoulder of the great chancel arch a pair of bowstring stained glass windows show two images of St John; images of the Pastor in the wilderness, and of the Evangelist. Together they could be seen as memorials of John Youl, Pastor (and Pastoralist) and Evangelist. Oliver Goldsmith wrote an apt description of the Village Parson in his poem "The Deserted Village"

*Remote from towns he ran his godly race,  
Nor e'er had changed, nor wished to change his place...  
.....for other aims his heart had learned to prize,  
more skilled to raise the wretched than to rise.*

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## A SONG FOR REV JOHN YOUL—*Alan Jones*

*A suitable rhythm pattern is that of "battle Hymn of the Republic" (also of John Brown's Body) by Julia Ward Howe*

Evangelist John Youl unto the Tamar Shore did come,  
He came to preach the Good News, and he beat a big loud drum:  
The drum he beat to indicate that one and all might come'  
To hear the glorious promise of God's Word.

*Glory, glory, halleluiah! Glory, glory, halleluiah*  
*Glory, glory halleluiah*  
*St John's Church offers everyone the Word!*

John Youl he preached and John Youl toiled  
He formed his own domain:  
He sheared his sheep and he killed his beef,  
He harvested his grain, but, most of all from Low Head,  
and as far as Norfolk Plain,  
he saved the souls of those who loved the lord!

*Glory, glory, halleluiah! Glory, glory, halleluiah*  
*Glory, glory halleluiah*  
*St John's Church offers everyone the Word*

John Youl he prayed for prisoners and for those whom men called "free",  
And some who heard believed the Word,  
Some shunned it totally:  
Still the Word preached by Saint John of old is there for you and me  
As it was in John Youl's day!

*Glory, glory, halleluiah! Glory, glory, halleluiah*  
*Glory, glory halleluiah*  
*St John's Church offers everyone the Word*

## VIEWS FROM THE PEWS — THE LATEST EVENT

The Southlands Consultancy Report (A personal view)

We started the process nearly 9 months ago following a meeting of the Parish one cold Saturday morning last winter. It was clear to many of us that we needed to seriously look at what St John's is and where we are heading.

I have a very clear view that change is inevitable – our congregation is getting older; fewer families attend church than they did. Over the last 20 years we have seen changes – amongst others; changes in taste, and in what is and what isn't acceptable. I remember when I would hesitate to come to church in anything other than a suit. What if one doesn't have a suit? Is it OK to come to church? Today it wouldn't matter, but I remember a young man in about 1982 coming to church – I befriended him and took him home for lunch. He was employed as a "lion tamer's assistant" in the local visiting circus. He was keen to come to church but when I naively suggested he wore "better" clothes he came the following week in a Beatles style suit with crimson velvet cuffs and collar. He was embarrassed, I was embarrassed - he didn't come again. My values about what one should wear to church have changed. I would hope that that young man would find St John's a very different church today.

Yes, change is inevitable. Christianity is all about change – repentance – changing past practices and taking on the Lord Jesus as the ruler of your life rather than yourself. We should not be fearful about change. That doesn't mean we need to have one thing one week and the following week have everything different. Change should be made carefully, planned and well thought through - not just change for change sake. We need to know the direction to which we need to change. As the Cheshire Cat said to Alice in Wonderland, "If you don't know where you want to go it doesn't matter which road you take".

The Executive, the Rector, and the Parish Council, have now seen the Consultancy report and after a Parish Meeting it has been made available in its entirety to the congregation. If you haven't seen it get hold of a copy through the Parish office.

It is an exciting if daunting document. How we deal with it has yet to be deter-

## VIEWS FROM THE PEWS – THE LATEST EVENT *(continued from page 11)*

There are however, some basic principles about which we need to be sure. The first is, that although much change has been recommended, it is important to consider which changes we adopt and how those changes might be effected. The basic idea is to divide up all the recommendations into "bite-sized" pieces and have a group of parishioners study them in detail and formulate a plan of how we might deal with them – to reject them or to implement them. For changes to be implemented, we need careful timing and consultation.

Some recommendations such as the production of a parish magazine are easy to implement – we already have one! Similarly the Welcome pack and the Pew Bulletin. Much more difficult is to formulate a teaching program and to form a link with a compatible city church for youth ministry and to consider the implications of the Pastoral Team's aims in the context of an aging congregation.

A big job but one that has already been given considerable thought is the formation of a City Focus task force. Similarly, to further develop our relationship with the City Mission. The hows and the whens and the wherefores need to be sorted out but the initiative is not one that's difficult to grasp.

The subject that will need the most thought and the most careful planning if it is to proceed at all is the changes proposed to worship style, emphasis and times. There will be a tendency from some to reject the thoughts out of hand, for others some concepts will need further explanation and that might be in the context of a definite proposal. There will be some who welcome the proposed changes and will want immediate implementation. A few will decide, "This is not for me," and sadly will attend other churches. Those who want immediate change will need great patience because I don't believe the changes should be hurried. The idea should be to consult widely and to make haste slowly.

Personally, I think St John's is about to take some big steps forward. I pray that everything we do or say is done with the Holy Spirit leading us. I think we're in for some exciting times.

*John Smith*  
*Churchwarden*

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

At a Catholic gathering, Mother Superior stacked a pile of apples on one end of a table with a sign saying, "Take only one apple please—God is watching"



On the other end of the table was a pile of cookies which a student had placed a sign on saying, "Take all the cookies you want—God is watching the apples!"

## RELIGIOUS BLOOPERS :

*Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation!!*

*Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community!!!*

*Low Self Esteem Support Group meets Thursday morning at 10. Please use the back door!!*

*John Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days!!*



## The Senility Prayer

*God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked  
the good fortune to run into the ones that I do.  
And the eyesight to tell the difference.*

## AROUND THE PARISH

*This section is to be an introduction to people in the parish. In other words those brave souls who are willing to have their photo taken (by me!!!) and to have a piece written about them. (Ed.)*

*Valerie Murgatroyd*

By Wendy Cowell

Valerie has been associated with St. John's all her life - baptised and confirmed here. She has worked in the Parish Office for the past fourteen years, considering this to be the best job in Australia. She is very involved in the life of the parish, apart from her office duties, catering from time to time for events that include social functions in the parish and Alpha and Bible study. Val is also a Synod representative, sidesperson and on the flower roster. Her outside interests include Life-link Samaritans where she is a telephone befriender and involved in the management committee. She is also a National Trust volun-



teer at Clarendon House. Both these activities she enjoys very much.

Val lives in the country at Longford on a rural property where she enjoys maintaining a lovely cottage garden - despite the feverish activities of some feathered "friends" which live there. Her other "free" time involves spending time with her friends, reading, needlework and being a "great" aunt to her family.



*(I feel and I'm sure everyone would agree that Val's wonderful welcoming smile as you walk into the Parish Office, is one of St John's greatest assets. Ed.)*

## WELCOME TO TASMANIA



Monytong Majok [Chol] John [father], Amou Paleek Rebecca [mother] Nyanyiik Chol [Montong] Angelina [daughter], Majok Chol [Montong] Philip [son], Akock Chol [Montong] Deborah [daughter]

We extend a warm welcome to our new refugee family from Sudan. We do pray that your new life here in Tasmania will be a long and happy one.

## ALPHA COURSE

This Course represents the flagship of our evangelism effort and has seen several newcomers brought and many others restored to Christ.

Alpha is the name given to an eleven-week course designed by the Anglican Church at Holy Trinity Brompton in the United



Kingdom to introduce people to the teachings of Jesus and the basis of the Christian Faith.

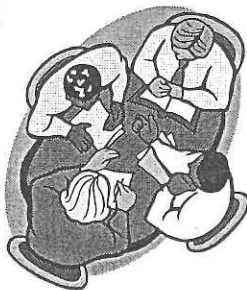
St John's Launceston runs evening and daytime courses. The next course starts on the 30th May.

Contact: John E N Smith at 63314896 or 63346494 ah



## BIBLE STUDY— *Tiny Kennedy*

Announcing a new format for Friday Morning Bible Study. Open to all—especially former Alpha attendees. We will go the next step and follow Nicky Gumbel in a series of 9 week videos and discussions, on Philippians—



the book of joy—to learn more about “*A Life Worth Living*”. Starts Friday June 1 10am to 12noon Tiny Kennedy’s home, 6 Meredith Crescent, South Launceston. Ph. 6343 3388

*Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst*

John 4:13

## COMPUTERS FOR GOOD? – *Jan Wood*

I have lived through an age of technology from the introduction of the telex machines to modern computers. I remember the first time I was asked to use an electric typewriter - how wonderful it seemed at the time. How I was the envy of all the other secretaries! Then came text data machines, which had a small screen on the keyboard, enabling the typist to edit the typed data. We had to have special training for this and it involved having to learn complex codes (no mouse to just point and click) to operate the functions. I have sat in a government training office and seen super-efficient secretaries cry with the frustration of having to learn to operate such complicated machines.

We then progressed to the word processor that improved matters by having a screen and the facility to see the full page. But it was still very complicated and needed special training. Then finally, the arrival of the Mac, with the mouse and full pull down menus, how wonderful that was, although the screen still seemed somewhat small. We now have PCs and full screens with connection to servers and the Internet with on line help. How wonderful! No complicated programmes just point and click. And even further the ability to just speak to the machine and see the written word appear!!!

(continued page 17)

## COMPUTERS FOR GOOD?—(continued from page 16)

The downside of all this is that we as human beings are using this God-given knowledge for evil. Not a day goes by without a newspaper report on some one using the computer for fraud, pornography, or extortion, not to mention the jobs lost as people are replaced by machines. On the up side, the computer helps the elderly or disabled people to be independent, being able to pay bills, transfer money, shop or chat to someone on the other side of the world. For people who are isolated, the opportunity do a university degree or further study without having to leave home is just wonderful.

For me it is being able to see my grandchildren twice a week even though they live in WA and actual seeing them in the flesh is difficult. Through the wonders of *Net Meeting*, a programme that with the aid of a small camera enables the family in WA to see and speak to us in Tassie and for us to see them, which is just wonderful. For my granddaughter to be able to say, “Look Grandma, I have lost another tooth!” and to actually see the gap and being able to commiserate and marvel at the new tooth already appearing, is something I will treasure. This miracle of God-given knowledge enables us to be together so much more as a family and for that I thank God.



"Okay your father managed to get a mouse. Now how do we use it?"

*CYBER DREAMS—Vicki Riette*

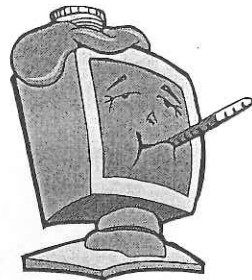
In Computerland where cold eyes stare  
 And hearts are bare  
 No God is there -  
 No God, but man  
 And the machines he has created  
 Of his own volition.

No place is found for foreign faiths  
 No religion but the mighty Man/Machine  
 No motivation  
 But cold ambition  
 And the steely will to succeed.

Fingers fly in compliance  
 With prewritten laws  
 If they falter  
 The writing is erased  
 And start again.

Cold formats stereotype  
 The sum of knowledge  
 The Internet  
 The Surfer's Paradise  
 Of new and forgotten lore.

So computerize if you dare  
 All kinds of traps await you there  
 And of all other thoughts or dreams - Beware!

*LETTERS TO THE EDITOR*

**Hello! Is anyone out  
 there ??????**

**I am trying to get this page  
 alight with discussion.**

- 1) What are your views on Cloning?
- 2) Computers?
- 3) The revival of the Roman Empire!!!
- 4) Are we seeing the "End Times"?
- 5) Social Issues v Christian values?

How about some letters to this page?

