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The Journal of the Launceston Computer Group Inc ABN 41 451 764 376

Volume 8 Issue 9 October 2009

Next Meeting
OCTOBER 7th
Guest Speaker
Dr Frank Madill
Doctor, Sheep Farmer, Politician,
Author
November Speaker
Dr Rick Butler

Newstream Articles

Deadline: 10 Days before Meeting

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Membership

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LCG Committee 2009/10

President: Iris Meek

Vice President: Janet Headlam

Minutes Secretary: Joel Harbottle

Treasurer: Dennis Murray

Ass. Treasurers: Don Cooper

MAC Librarians: Joel Harbottle

PC Librarian: Julie Hjort

Ass. PC Librarian: Judy Hall

Newstream Editor: Ron Baker

Publicity Officer: Karia Wicks

Ass. Publicity Officer: - open -

OPEN Co-ordinator: Robert Tierney

Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen

Auditor: Ron Baker

"VICTOR" Liason: Robert Tierney

General Committee: Mike Armes, Sue Armes, Glenn Gilpin,

Harvey Tavener, Reinhard von Samorzewski,

OPEN Committee 2009/10

Chairperson OPEN: Robert Tierney. Chair all meetings of OPEN and ensure that they run smoothly

Vice Chairperson OPEN: June Hazzlewood. *Chair meeting when the Chairperson is unavailable.*

Secretary: Margaret Carrington Handles all incoming and outgoing communications Responsible for the documentation and distribution of all meeting minutes

Assistant Secretary: - open -. Help the Secretary where necessary

Treasurer: Dennis Murray. Responsible for all monies and banking

Assistant Treasurer: Don Cooper. Help the Treasurer where necessary.

Publicity Officer: Karia Wicks. Responsible for all advertising

OPEN Co-ordinator: Robert Tierney. Responsible for the smooth running

of Centre on a daily basis

Membership Co-ordinator: Karia Wicks.

Keep Membership database up to date.

Beginners Project Co-ordinator: Eleanor Horder.

Tutor Co-ordinator: Robert Tierney. Keep regular contact with Tutors to

bring ideas and concerns to meetings

Assistant Tutor Co-ordinators: Eleanor Horder and Janet Headlam.

Newsletter Editors Assistant: Dennis Murray. Collates and produces the

OPEN Newsletter for inclusion in LCG monthly 'Newstream'

Technical Co-ordinators: Dennis Murray (PC's) and Joel Harbottle (Mac). Responsible for the maintenance and repairs to all computer equipment

Co-ordinator of "VICTOR": Robert Tieney.

Webmaster/Content: Tom Olsen. OPEN Committee: Iris Meek, Harvey

Tavener, Robin Walker, Barry Symons, Laraine Rist.



OPEN NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2009

Notes from the Club

Judy has commenced classes following her Graphics, Family History and Specialised classes on Wednesdays. The LCG class runs from 3.30 to 5.30.

This along with the Tuesday evening and afternoon classes Monday and Thursday sees the club being used extensively.

With the Deloraine Fair approaching, Judy will be absent October 1 to November 11 and her classes will be managed by Robin Walker, Margaret Gilpin, Karia Wicks, Iris Meek and Eleanor Horder and helpers.

There are still some vacancies for Free Rip class September 30 10-noon. The Slide Scanning class is already fully subscribed.

There will be further specialty programs in 2010. Watch the Notice Boards.

Club Notes continued

Due to a hectic schedule and a communication breakdown with Esk Market, the proposed Market this month has been cancelled.

A new date will be found at the next LCG meeting.

Seniors Week will be a busy time at the club.

The club will be open each day October 1-7. Tutors will be looking after students as usual, but visitors may be watching the procedures.

The OPEN 8th Birthday party Saturday October 3 at 6pm will be attended by several guests including the President of ASCCA Nan Bosler.

A plate to help with catering would be appreciated as we are not sure of the numbers.

Welcome home Ron, we've all missed you

Cheers Iris

VICTOR PHONE NUMBER 0408 174 235

Contact the Coordinator Rob Tierney for assistance with computer problems at home

(Bookings are subject to availability of tutors.)

OPEN MONTHLY MEETING September 29 3.30 2009

Please take this opportunity to have an input into the way the club operates into the future.

Do you have a suggestion for a new class topic?

Would you like to take on a small volunteering role to help with the club's day-to-day functions?

Are there ways in which we can provide better services to members?

LAUNCESTON COMPUTER GROUP

MONTHLY MEETING WED OCTOBER 6

7:00 pm



Followed at 7:30 pm by

Guest Speaker Dr Frank Madill

The Doctor has now published three books. He is a gifted and entertaining speaker on various subjects.

All members of LCG and OPEN are welcome to attend this evening.



OPEN Session Times

At Studioworks, 1 Pipeworks Rd, L'ton Standard Sessions \$5.00

[Some special tutorial materials may incur additional charges]

Monday	10 am –12	General & Beginners		
	1 pm – 3 pm	Basics and Beyond		
Tuesday	10 am –12	O-Learn & Beginners [all day]		
	1 pm – 3 pm	Mac [all day]		
	7 pm—9 pm	Basics (Night Class)		
Wednesday	10 am-noon	Special sessions or Meetings		
	1.pm –3.00	As for mornings (see rosters)		
	3.30—5.30	N/A Oct 1—Nov 11		
Thursday	10 am –12	General & Beginners		
	1 pm – 3 pm	General & Beginners		
Friday	10 am –12	General &		
Mon-Thurs 3.30—5.30 O Learn classes				

OPEN NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2009

SPECIAL WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

Please register on the sheets - numbers may be limited

Date	Time	Topic	Details	
October 7	10 am—12 noon	Graphics Workshop	Continuation of the series in learning how to	
	1.00—3.00	Making cards	Good with Christmas just around the corner	
	7 pm to 9 pm	LCG Monthly Meeting	Guest Speaker Dr Frank Madill physician and author	
October 14	10 am—12 noon	Basic Graphics	More on Basic Graphics	
	1pm—3-30 pm	Family History	Margaret Gilpin and Robin Walker will assist you in tracing your	
October 21	10 am—12 noon	Print Artist	With Karia Wicks	
	1 pm to 3.30 pm	Level 2 and 3 Graphics	Graphics techniques for those members with advanced skills and requirements	
October 28	10 am—12 noon	Family History	With Margaret Gilpin and Robin Wakler	
	1 pm—3.30 pm	Paint Shop Pro 11	Graphics with the latest version of PSP	
OPEN	Meeting	Changed to last	Tuesday in September 3.30 pm.	



OPEN COMPUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

2ND SEPTEMBER 2009-09-07

Meeting Opened at 1pm

PRESENT:

Rob Tierney (Chair), Margaret Carrington, June and Bert Hazzlewood, Karia Wicks, Larraine Rist, Iris Meek.

Eleanor Horder, Jenny Napier, Janet Headlam, Tom Olsen.

Harvey Tavener

APOLOGIES:

Joel Harbottle, Judy Hall

ASSCA CONVENTION:

Iris gave a very comprehensive talk about her experience at the ASCCA Conference held recently in Sydney.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Harvey moved that these minutes be accepted. Seconded by Eleanor:

BUSINESS ARISING:

Rob and Tom will install Don's computer into the network.

Members have been volunteering to help during Seniors' Week.

It was agreed that we do not take part in The Retirees Expo to be held at the Country Club Casino in the near future.

DAFFODIL DAY:

We are pleased to report that, by the sale of merchandise, we raised \$70 towards cancer research.

CHRISTMAS DINNER:

The venue that June inspected at Riverside is too small for our needs and therefore not suitable for our Christmas Dinner.

Rob is to contact Centennial Hotel regarding maximum numbers that can be accommodated and dates available.

CORRESPONDENCE:

In: ASSCA Registration form for Conference.

Another Computer Store - Invoice Rent Paid

Dept. Premier & Cabinet - Seniors' Week Kit

Out: Dennis Murray. Card of thanks for all the work he does behind the scenes in keeping our network of computers running smoothly. Also for the high speed printer he so kindly donated to the club. We offered our help in any way possible after he has his operation. Providing transport, meals or in any other way we are able.

Cheque to ASSCA for Conference Registration.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Karia read the financial report and it was agreed that OPEN

NEWSTREAM

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renew VET security. Moved by Karia that the report be accepted, seconded by June.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

CA Anti virus to be renewed.

It was agreed that we close for the year on 18th December and that we book at Centennial Hotel For our Christmas Dinner.

Our phone number and request that interested people to ring us, is to be included on the Seniors' Week posters Iris is going to distribute around town.

It was agreed that students should only pay half price for lessons During Seniors' Week due to the fact they may not receive the amount of tuition to which they have become accustomed.

June is to apply for grant to reimburse tutors for some of the travelling they do in order to attend OPEN for the purpose of tutoring.

Our 8th Birthday celebration was discussed.

Iris is to obtain price for slab cake from Goodies.

Karia is to cancel usual advertisement in The Examiner for time being.

Meeting closed at 2.30pm

Next meeting

Tuesday 29th September 2009

Special date due to Seniors' Week.

Meeting Held at 1/1 Pipeworks Road

Launceston Computer Group, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday September 2 2009

Meeting

All present were welcomed for a short meeting preceeding a Mac presentation by Ivan Turmine.

The meeting opened at 7.25.

Present

Janet Headlam, Glenn Gilpin, Iris Meek (in chair), Ron Baker, Harvey Tavener, Ted Bramich, Laraine Rist (acting secretary), Ivan Turmine, Reinhard von Samorzewski, Mike and Sue Armes.

Apologies

June and Bert Hazzlewood, Eleanor Horder, Tom Olsen, Joel Harbottle, Judy Hall, Julie Hjort and Dennis Murray.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read. **Moved:** Ron Baker **Seconded**: Harvey Tavener they be confirmed as correct. Car.

Correspondence:

MyState re merger and shares, ASCCA news and accounts for payment.

Business Arising:

The late Don Cooper's computer has been purchased and Tom and Rob hope to install it on the network next week.

Seniors week: OPEN will charge half fees during the week as some students may not have full attention of tutors. Some students will be assisting with various tasks during the week.

Dennis Murray continues to wait in line for surgery and the club wishes him well when he finally gets into hospital.

The new slide scanner is getting a lot of attention. Several members are very excited with its performance.

New printers, one Dennis found for Judy and another two donated by Glen Dhu Caravan Park have found a warm home.

Carpet has been put in hall to prevent slipping when shoes are wet.

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Financial Report:

Karia presented a balance paper of \$19665.33 inc VICTOR \$5,928.19. This month's rent will be \$1250. For payment \$1736.14. The full financial report is attached to the minutes. Moved: Iris Meek/Janet Headlam financial report be received and payments ratified. Car.

Ivan Turmine asked if an adapter could be purchased for Mac set-ups. The members at the meeting approved the purchase which will be made by Ivan. It will probably cost between \$40 and \$50.

We had made the correct decision re asking for a cheque for our MyState shares. Ron advised our Constitution does not cover the Share Market, or any other profit making ventures.

Open had raised \$70 with sales of pens and badges for Daffodil Day.

They had also decided to close Friday Dec 18 with a luncheon, possibly again at the Centennial Hotel. Rob Tierney will look into the booking. June had looked at Steve's Grill, but it was too small for us.

OPEN also has Seniors Week organised. It will be followed by the Clubs Birthday party at the club Oct 3.

Robert has drawn up a schedule for Seniors Week.

ASSCA president Nan Bosler will be a welcome and distinguished guest.

June Hazzlewood is busy doing what she does best...applying for grants for our club.

General Business

Ron is going on holiday for September and had Newstream out early. Iris will give him a report from the conference to use next Newstream.

Market Report:

Judy is checking out September 27 for the next Esk Market day as the 20th was out for Ron and Glenn. Robert had found a cash tin which he believes will suit the purpose. Hopefully there will be some Mac details available that day. Market "find" Bruce Colebrook has settled in to Tuesday classes, assisting in many ways. We hope to get more tutors either this way or through the usual processes.

Guest Speakers:

Glenn has been in contact with Dr Rick Butler who will be our speaker November

4.

Ron Baker is demonstrating Windows 7 at the December meeting.

We have an offer from Dr Scott Hollier on 'Accessibility features in Windows and Web Browsers'

Other suggestions are: Dr Frank Madill,

Robert Lukas from Eagle Crest Technologies...we pick the subject matter.

John Simmons with his photographs of Tasmanian flora and fauna.

Wolfram Borgis..Slide Shows varied places around the world or the composition in photography. His earliest available date was February 3 (AGM). First Wednesdays are not always suitable to him.

Megan at Filcam.

ASSCA Conference:

Iris spoke on the National Conference. A report on a lot of it can be found in the latest ASSCA newsletter. It was one of the best Conferences she had ever attended and took many notes.

Meeting closed 8.15.

Next Meeting Wednesday October 7 at 7pm..

The meeting was followed by an amazing demonstration of "how Ivan made his large telescope which he has since donated to the Queen Victoria Museum". Thank you Ivan...you are indeed a talented man.

0:	D - 4	/ /0000
Signed.	י בזבו ו	<i>i iz</i> nnu
Signed:	Date	//2003.



NEWBIE CLUB TUTORIALS

Tutorial; "How To Save And Recover Resources"

Methods to save and recover resources:

- * Shut down any applications you're not using
- * Programs may use resources while you work. The longer a program is open, the more resources it may use. Exit and restart the application to end the unnecessary resource use.
- * Open document windows use resources. Close any documents you aren't actively using. For example, Microsoft Word will allow multiple documents to be open at the same time. Each open document requires resources. You can close documents without shutting down Word itself.
- * Toolbars and status bars require resources. Any graphical display item uses resources. Shut down any features you don't use.
- * Some programs are super users of resources, hogging more than their fair share.
- * If you let your resources get into the red zone, Windows will never really recover. Shutting down programs only regains a partial amount of resources--a lot like one step forward and two steps backward. Reboot your computer to "clear its brain" and start fresh.
- * Turn off the Active Desktop if it's on. It's a resource hog.
- * Refrain from using wallpaper, animated cursors, or desktop themes.
- * If you launch a program, then shut it down before it opens fully, you won't get back the resources that were allocated for the launch you aborted. Always let a program open completely before shutting it down.

Remember that computers are made by people, and people aren't perfect. Windows, for all its flexibility, customizability, and nearly universal popularity, still has a long way to go before it becomes the rock solid, problem free operating system the entire world wants to use. Well, that will never happen, but wouldn't we all be happy if it did?

Following some of these tips may mean you don't get to see pretty pictures and dancing icons. Well, if that's what you use your computer for, then simply ignore this advice. Just monitor your resources and reboot as needed.

Tutorial ... "About Viruses"

With the inter connectivity of the Net, security issues raise their ugly little heads. What do you do about all the viruses, hackers, crackers, and more that seek to work mischief and mayhem? Fortunately, an entire industry has developed to help fend off these fiends.

- * A cracker is a computer expert who creates devious programs or breaks into systems with malicious intent. A cracker is the evil twin to the hacker, who is more inclined to break into computers without doing anything destructive, carrying out complex computer pursuits for their own merit.
- * Viruses come in two flavors: malicious, and annoying. And they're either destructive or disrupting. They're created with remarkable speed (about 100 new viruses are discovered monthly), and infections occur daily.
- * Just as a real live virus is passed from person to person, computer viruses are passed primarily through floppy disk swapping and downloading files from the Net, primarily in the form of email attachments. For more information, see the website
- * Virus scanning and checking programs exist to ward off the attacker. Are they really effective? Maybe. It all depends on how often you update your virus scanning software, and how diligent you are about using its file



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examining features. Preventive care is powerful medicine in both the health and computer industries.

* Why isn't a virus checker included with Windows? Possibly because Microsoft is concerned about potential issues similar to those surrounding its inclusion of a browser with the Operating System--could it be fear of antitrust violations? Whatever the reason, there are many excellent antivirus programs on the market. But they're not all perfect!

* A few virus checking programs to check out:

Norton Antivirus http://www.symantec.com/

McAfee Virus Scan http://www.mcafee.com

AVG http://www.freeavg.com (free - I've used it for 4 years)

Tutorial: "Windows Made Clearer Part 1"

3 buttons on a PC - Minimize, Maximize, and Close - are used more than any other - apparently:-)

These little buttons are found on every window in the right side of the Title Bar. The minimize button is commonly referred to as the "minus sign" but that's a kind of symbolic reduction of the item's significance. The Close button is called the "X" button by some, and could be correlated with the X-File if you want to be imaginative. The buttons reside in order: Minimize, Maximize, and Close.

Clicking the minimize button will fold up the window into a neat little package that resides in the taskbar in button format. Try it. Click the minimize button on this e-book right now, and watch it transform itself via the magic of animation.

The Maximize button is next to minimize, and its sole purpose is expand

the window to full screen. No matter how small or to what size you've adjusted a window, clicking this button will dramatically increase your view.

After expansion, the button looks like a double set of maximize buttons, one layered on top of the other. Click again, and the window returns to its previously un maximized state.

Tip: Double click the Title Bar to maximize or return a window to its previous size.

Tutorial: "Windows Made Clearer Part 2"

The close button will terminate your program or application. If you haven't saved work, you'll be prompted with a message, so don't worry about losing your valuables.

If you see two sets of "X" buttons, such as are common to word processing programs, the lower set will close the document without exiting the word processing program.

The Resize Handle is special.

What? What's a resize handle? It's that little area in the lower right corner of a window that lets you, well, resize the window! Vertical and horizontal dimensions can be changed simultaneously using this handle. Pass your mouse cursor over the resize handle, and it turns into a double-headed arrow.

Left click and drag the window to the size you desire.

Check your status with the Status Bar.

This is an overlooked part of a window that displays statistical and other information. Things like the time, the size of a selected file, and any other

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detail oriented info the designers want to include can be found here.

Turn the Status Bar on if you want to see it. The bar makes up the bottom portion of an active window.

Windows comes out of the box with the status bar turned off.

Seems someone thought you'd be overwhelmed with information, and decided to make Windows as plain as possible. There are a lot of nice features that are turned off by default. The Status Bar is one of them.

Check any window's View menu to see if an option for using the Status Bar exists. Also, try right clicking the status bar itself to see if any user configurable options exist.

Still confused? Don't worry it's not as difficult as it looks.

Just take your time and go through these actions one step at a time. Pretty soon it will become second nature to you.

Tutorial; "How To Protect Your Files From Accidents"

To prevent accidental deletion of data files, or alteration by another user of your computer do this ...

Right Click Start ...

Open Windows Explorer Navigate to the file you wish to protect Right click on the file, which opens a new window.

Left click on Properties then General Click on 'Read Only' Click Apply or OK Now you can still open and close the file but if you make changes you must 'Save As' in another name. In other words your existing file cannot be altered.

And if anyone attempts to delete the file it has to be confirmed first.

Tutorial ... "Save to Disk - Excuse Me?"

Every week, someone who has bought one of our products emails to say they tried to download and 'save to disk' but it didn't appear on their CD. Here's the scenario ...

You're about to download a file from a web site. You see a dialog box (window) appear with a couple of options:

- 1. Open from current location.
- 2. Save to disk.

What do you do? Open from current location, right? Sounds reasonable. The file is at its current location, so open it.

Not so fast!

If you want to download the file to your computer at home or work or wherever you are, then you'll want to use the option that's selected by default... the one that's checked off to begin with. "Save to disk".

Disk doesn't always mean "floppy disk". What it really means is that you will save the file to a disk. Most likely this will be, and should be, your hard drive. Otherwise known as your (C:) drive. Though it could be your (D:) drive, or any other letter drive as long as it's not your A:, B:, or the drive you associated with your CD player.

Nope. You can't download to a CD! But you can burn a CD. That is, copy programs and stuff onto a CD, which is called "burning" a CD.

So, next time you get ready to download, just leave the "Save to disk"

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option checked off. (Technically, since the selector is a "radio button" it can't be checked. It is selected.) And why is it called a radio button? Because it's round, and it's kind of like those old radios that had the buttons you could punch in, only one at a time. These computer radio buttons can only be selected one at a time, which is different from a check box, which allows multiple simultaneous selections.

Okay, I see your eyes starting to roll back in your head. So let's dismiss this class! Just "Save to disk" then copy to a floppy or some other larger storage device later, AFTER you've downloaded.

Tutorial; "How To Change Your Windows Colour Scheme"

This tutorial is all about preferences. About customization.

About what Windows is all about! When you grow tired of the same look, just change it to something new.

This is for Windows XP but is very similar for other versions and it makes a LOT more sense when you see it in Picture form in Windows for Newbies at http://newbieclub.com/wfncopy ...

RIGHT click a blank area of your desktop. You'll see a flyout menu Click Properties.

The Display Properties dialog box appears.

Click the Appearance tab and you'll see a windows display.

This is where you make colour changes. To select a window part that you want to change, simply click on that part. For example, to change the Active Window colour, click on the Active Window title bar. The 'Item' line will change to reflect your selection, When you've selected the window part you want to change, click on the colour drop down box to select your colour preference.

From this selection box, choose your colour.

Clicking the 'Other' button shows another window.

Choose your colour, and click OK to proceed.

To create a custom colour, first click on an empty Custom colours box. Then move the cross hair cursor to a colour you want and the colour slider downward to change the hue.

Then click the button 'Add to Custom Colours'.

Once you've made your colour choices, click OK to apply the new colour changes.

You can repeat this process for each item on the Appearance tab in the Display Properties window.

Experiment. Most of all, have fun!

Geek-Speak Busters

"Secure Server"

When a browser connects to a secure server, it uses HTTPS: in the URL, not HTTP:. The additional "S" lets you know it's a secure site. During the connection process, the browser and the server agree to encrypt all the data.

So credit card information is turned into gobbledygook. Any info traveling between browser and server will be seen as a lot of undecipherable nonsense by any snoop.

Additionally, the browser's padlock symbol in the lower section of the screen will be in the locked position.

"Registry"

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The Windows Registry is totally unlike anything you've ever seen, and is off limits to the timid.

The Registry is a central database that contains all the info on settings, colours, properties, and more for your PC. It also holds the settings for the programs and applications, as well as hardware installed on your PC. Entire volumes have been dedicated to this area, including our own Windows Registry for Newbies e-book. If you're interested, consult The Newbie Club web site for this ebook: http://newbieclub.com/rfncopy/. Click the link, and if you're on-line, you'll be whisked to the site.





GOD CREATED CHILDREN (AND IN THE PROCESS GRANDCHILDREN)

To those of us who have children in our lives, whether they are our own, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or students...here is something to make you chuckle

Whenever your children are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to His own children.

After creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve.

And the first thing he said was 'DON'T!' 'Don 't what?' Adam replied.

God said 'Don't eat the forbidden fruit.'

'Forbidden fruit?

We have forbidden fruit?

Hey Eve..we have forbidden fruit! ''No Way! ''Yes way! ''Do NOT eat the fruit! 'said God.

'Why?' 'Because I am your Father and I said so!' God replied, wondering why He hadn't stopped creation after making the elephants A few minutes later, God saw His children having an apple break and He was ticked!

'Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit? 'God asked.

Uh huh,' Adam replied.

'Then why did you? 'said the Father.

'I don't know,' said Eve.

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'She started it! 'Adam said.

'Did not!' 'Did too!' 'DID NOT!' Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own.

Thus the pattern was set and it has never changed.

If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give children wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be hard on yourself.

If God had trouble raising children, what makes you think it would be a piece of cake for you?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

- 1. You spend the first two years of their life teaching them to walk and talk. Then you spend the next sixteen telling them to sit down and shut up.
- 2. Grandchildren are God's reward for not killing your own children.
- 3. Mothers of teens now know why some animals eat their young.
- 4. Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said
- 5. The main purpose of holding children's parties is to remind yourself that there are children more awful than your own
- 6. We childproofed our homes, but they are still getting in.

ADVICE FOR THE DAY:

Be nice to your kids.

They will choose your nursing home one day AND FINALLY:

IF YOU HAVE A LOT OF TENSION AND YOU GET A

HEADACHE,

DO WHAT IT SAYS ON THE ASPIRIN BOTTLE:

'TAKE TWO ASPIRIN' AND 'KEEP AWAY FROM CHILDREN'!!!!!



