

21st October, 2002

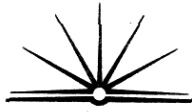
1 Salutation Ave

Hermit Junction 2002

Dear Website Designer,

NSW

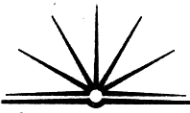
I am an eighty year old man with too many grandchildren to keep track of. Recently I attended the youngest one's "Grandparents' Day" at his primary school. Boy, are things a whole lot different now. When the kids were showing us their expansive use of technology in the classroom, they located your website to show us how they can do their own research for projects such as "Different Cultures". I was struck by the similarities these kids in Canada share with my grandkids. "They've adapted (to computer technology) faster than any kids we've seen" ~~of~~ you quote Rick Selleck. I totally understand. It's exactly how I feel about kids in Australia. Not only do they seem to think quicker and more succinctly than I remember people of my generation used to, but they're learning about the "meaty" issues much earlier in life. Excelling in projects on different cultures at age eight would have been beyond my grasp. Nevermind



their mature attitudes. When I was a boy, I amused myself with running up to stranger's doors, knocking on them then running away as soon as I had done so, hiding behind their fence or hedge and watching for their reaction when they opened the door to find no one was there! My grandson wouldn't dream of doing such a thing. Don't get me wrong, he still knows how to have fun, but it's fun on the volunteer carwashing service he's part of for Scouts. Their fun is splashing around in the soapsuds and hose. And they seem to enjoy it just as much. They never get in trouble for it either. I remember I ~~to~~ once knocked on the headmaster's door and ran away, into the deputy - boy were those canings painful. Which brings me to another thing ... at Grandparents Day I was astonished at how school has changed. No more ~~washed~~ wooden desks with rags to clean the blackboard, no more canes or sawdust to cover the thrown-up lunch, ~~Now they've~~ and amazingly, no more ~~log tables~~ logarithm tables to memorise. Now they've got these nifty little devices called calculators, plastic desks and chairs which are a lot more comfortable I tell you, I sat on one, what a



great it was. I think I'll replace my old rickety kitchen chairs with some if I can just find the number of the school furniture warehouse - the teacher was so kind in giving it to me - where was I, they have white boards now, direct opposite to what we used to have, and "minus marks" instead of the cane, which are kept tally of and once ten are gained, confusing because they're "minus", a good deed must be done for the community such as gardening for an old person such as myself who just can't bend down anymore. The teachers are a whole lot nicer too now. They're very "pastoral care" orientated, infiltrating the lives of the kids in other ways besides school. Teachers now are like surrogate parents, and for some of the kids need them with the increasing divorce rate. And the grasp of technology they have is astounding. The kids love it, and like the Inuit children, they've adapted pretty fast. I don't know what's in store for my grandson's kids but I ~~sho~~ sure don't reckon I could keep up. Anyway, your website has inspired me to hook up to the net myself. I can't let the grandkids beat me. ~~What off for a surf~~ I should probably



learn to how to e-mail - it'd take less time than mailing
in the post. Not to mention, I don't have a postal
address for you - only the link on your site, so I
guess I'll have to get little Johnny to show me how. Well,
I'm off for a ~~surf~~ surf.

Regards,

John Johnson Senior.

P.S. That's surf the net, not the waves I'm sure you
know what I mean. You are a website designer after all.