



The Ninth issue of a weekly, or thereabouts (job, weather, life etc., permitting), letter substitute from:
Tommy Ferguson, at 768 Manning Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6G 2W6.
E-mail: tferg@globalserve.net Phone: (416) 539 8992 Web Site: <http://www.globalserve.net/~tferg>
Distribution in the UK by Eugene Doherty, 110 North Parade, Belfast, BT7 Email: e.Doherty@virgin.net Available in the North Americas only via the net (From this issue, text only) at the moment but send me a note and I'll print you a copy and put you on the list. Dated, already, 1/4/97. Yeah, I know...

Let's Broaden our Minds...

Was the title I was going to use when I was travelling home this month. Unfortunately a number of people have already left my place of work these past few months and although there may be a job for me when I get back in May, there also may not. As a, technically, illegal immigrant I'm not supposed to be working (until my papers are completely processed) so jobs of this quality are to easy to come by. Secondly, which caught me completely by surprise at the time, but now is actually sensible, I've spent all the money I got for selling my house.

Now before people back home go off the rails, I have invested a couple of grand, I have cleared all my debts from back home (quite sizeable when added up), I have travelled extensively, I have bought this computer and all the furniture and gubbins in the apartment and I have been living off it (quite handsomely, I might add!) for the last seven months. So, I suppose my little adventure in Canada is now over and it is back to real life worries about money and the like. Except that I'm not worried anymore. I know I'm okay, doing well and don't owe anyone anything. There are more important things in life to worry about.

Nyree's wedding. I can't be so blasé about this anymore. This thing really sucks the big one. I could, and probably should, go into my feelings on this thing but I don't think I will. Honesty with your friends can also lose your friends - not that anything I'm feeling at the moment will do that (way to self centred for that) - it has done so in the past. Give me some time to go over this mess and you never know, I may even get a fanzine article out of it...

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From: bevansa@cix.compulink.co.uk (Bernie Evans) Thanks for TW8. There's not a lot one can say, but as much sympathy and as many hugs as you can handle are in my thoughts and this e-mail. Take care of yourself. (There isn't a lot one can say, and

knowing that saying as little as possible is the best thing. Not much one can do either, except be there - and Mike, my flatmate, was there. I wish a few other people could have been there as well, but...)

From: ArtBrau@aol.com (Jeananne Gommel): I was glad to meet you too. (Yeah, Potlatch was great fun, I Met a whole bunch of people and you were one of them. That doesn't read the way it was meant to sound, but... Hope to meet up with you again, at some stage.)

From: Steve.Brewster@Bristol.ac.uk (Steve Brewster) Enjoyed the TommyWorlds so far (though reading them is a bit of a struggle - my browsers doesn't do anything with RTF documents, so I have to save them and FTP them into DOS and read them under Word. Would it be possible to have plain text versions on the web site too?) (You see folks? Can anyone help me out with some advice here. Lots of people really get the RTF versions, layout and colour included. A number of people can only get the text versions (as in regular email) and some can get Word (or other WP) documents. Suggestions for my mailing list? I can use Netscape or MS Internet Explorer.)

The Bristol mob went to see Star Wars at the flicks the other night - this was the first time I'd seen it on the big screen. Marvellous stuff. All t' best, (I just don't realise just how old this stuff is. I mean I always thought of myself as a young thing, in fannish terms. Yet there are people who are extremely active in fandom know and really well known who never saw Star Wars on first run. I feel a bit like Jim Mallory, a regular at the Monico meetings, when we discuss all-time favourite movies and character actors and he tells us that he saw these movies on first run. "But, it is in Black and White Jim..?" I can remember saying once. "Yeah, but I'm older than you Tommy..." he replied. Well, it would have been something like that. Now the wheel has turned full circle.)

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So Julia Daly arrives on these shores on Thursday for a few days visit. I've taken the week off work (well the a fortnight) to show her around, and have arranged a meeting on Friday at a local pub. (For those of you attending: Pauper's Pub, Bloor and Albany, one block east of Bathurst, ground level at the back. No smoking. 7pm 'til whenever.)

I hope to make this a regular monthly meeting. Somewhere that visiting fans know there will be some local fans and maybe plan around it. It seems ridiculous that there isn't a monthly meeting going on in Toronto that is purely for social purposes, for hanging out, having a few beers, a bite to eat and shooting the breeze. Where people visiting the city can come and not have to worry about local cliques, talking about Star Trek or any other minority issue or be assailed to buy Toronto in '03 Worldcon bid memberships (though...)

So make a date in your Calendars - The first Thursday (it's so fannish) of every month in the aforementioned location. Public transportation is just around the corner (Bathurst TTC) and parking is available - but tough to come by. Hey, it is an idea.

This is being distributed to a whole bunch of friends on the net, if you received this and would NOT like to be on the mailing list please accept my apologies for this intrusion and let me know so that you will not be bothered by further ramblings. If you know someone who would like to be on the mailing drop me a line.