

News and Notes from your editor

Your editor's piece for this issue is very brief, in large part because she is sick and unable to use the computer for very long.

The second reason is that this issue's contents seems not to need much editorialising. Most articles concern accountability and the power of the Executive, a matter of increasing concern world wide. Executive dominance, arrogance, lack of transparency as well as straight out secrecy are all of great concern. The moral underpinnings of democracy which centre on an understanding of the flaws and limitations of human beings and hence on tolerance and a sense of modesty in terms of our capacities to control the future, are seriously threatened. The threats from without are great; but more vital to your editor, are the threats from within all our democratic systems.

Most of this issue explores such matters in various ways.

In addition, I am delighted to see the first two of the 'parliamentary chronicles'. It is hoped that on a two year cycle each parliament will report on what's been happening of general interest. In this way I hope the journal will become a journal of record for parliamentary developments as well as telling us the readers of what's happening.

Finally we have another in our series of regular election reports — this one from South Australia from Dean Jaensch.

I trust you enjoy reading your Journal and will continue to support it through your membership, involvement in the issues and when appropriate through contributions. ▲

*Accountability and the Executive —
A Higher Accountability*

Reviewing Accountability

The Senate and Accountability

Parliament's Role

***Accountability and the Executive:
A Report from New Zealand***

Parliamentary Chronicles

Election Reports