



The Monotreme

Aussiecon Three Newsletter

Straczynski Arrives

Bravely battling the skies across the Pacific, and despite engine failure, JMS and his wife, Kathryn M Drennan, arrived safely in Australia. JMS promptly went to work attending an autograph signing for an hour and a half, to the great delight of his fans. They are both keeping all their other scheduled engagements.

1998 Golden Duck Awards

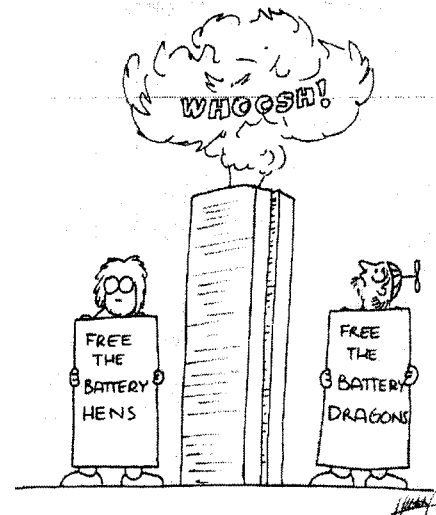
The 1998 Golden Duck Awards for excellence in children's Science Fiction will be presented during the "Other Awards" ceremony, Sat 5pm in You Yangs 1.

Hal Clement Award for Best Young Adult Book: **Larry Segreff** for *Alien Dreams* (Baen Books)
Middle Grades Award: **Kevin J.**

Anderson & Rebecca Moesta for the series *Star Wars:® Young Jedi Knights* (Berkley Publishing Group)
Picture Book Award for Best Children's Illustrator: **Emma Chichester Clark** for *Noah and the Space Ark* (by Laura Cecil; published by Carolrhoda Books)
Special Contribution Award: **Garth Nix** for promoting excellence in Australian children's Science Fiction Literature.

Sense of Community in Science Fiction Fandom: Don't miss out on your say.

An innovative research project is being undertaken during Aussiecon 3, the 57th World Science Fiction Convention. The research will examine sense of community in science fiction fandom. Do we have a strong sense of community and what things underlie our sense of community? So here's your chance to say how you feel about being a member of SF Fandom, the good and the bad. All you have to do is fill out the questionnaire included in the convention info pack and then return it to the sealed boxes at the research table in the dealers room. There will be a researcher at this table, to ask anything you want to know about the project. The research is being sponsored by the University of Southern Queensland and the principle researcher is a fan herself, Dr Lucy Zinkiewicz. Please take the opportunity to let the world know what fandom means to you.



POMPEII ON THE YARRA

If you go outside the hotel after dark (look, you wouldn't want to go outside in the light anyway, you might crumble and blow away) you may see one of the sights of Melbourne. Every hour, the pillars outside the Crown casino start belching fire into the sky. It's really very impressive if you haven't seen it before. It's still pretty impressive even if you have seen it before. For those of us from the more tightly regulated parts of the world, the main question was "how on earth did they get permission to do that in a built up area?" Other reactions so far range from "Wow!" (G. De Cesare) to "I wonder how they do that? I'll have to experiment with some propane when I get home" (Noel Collyer). Now you know which neighbourhood to avoid.

Those interested in a written version of much of the material in Thursday's Y2K panel can check www.benbest.com/computer/y2k.html. An update to this material will be added in mid-September.

Banquet Tickets still available Registration Desk \$50