

## AUSTRALIAN



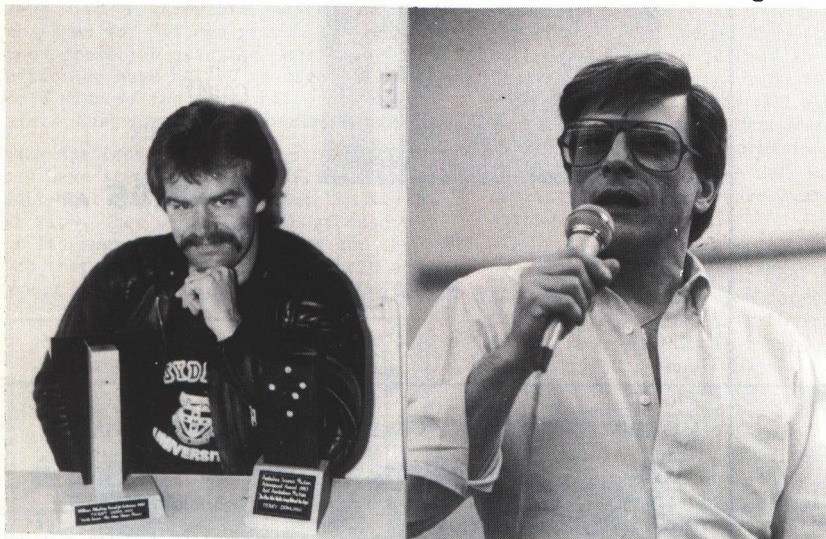
## NEWS

Volume 5 Number 2

JULY 1983

# Terry Dowling Wins DITMAR and ATHELING AWARDS

## Harlan Ellison Wins Fans At Syncon '83



TERRY DOWLING (Photo Terry Dowling) HARLAN ELLISON (Photo Steve Roylance)

THE AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS - THE DITMARS, were presented at the 22nd Australian National Science Fiction Convention -SYNCON '83, which was held at the Shore Motel, Artarmon, Sydney, June 10-13. The highlight of this well organised convention, one of the best all round sf cons we have seen in Australia, was the showman like performance of the Guest of Honour, HARLAN ELLISON. He had all the fans practically eating out of his hands, with the colourful and dramatic style of his speech making, readings and conversation. Besides TERRY DOWLING, the inevitable two awards went to MARC ORTLIEB again and ROBIN JOHNSON received the Special Award for Services to Australian Science Fiction. The full list of winners is as follows:

### BEST INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY

RIDDLEY WALKER by Russell Hoban (Jonathan Cape / Pan )

### BEST AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY

"The Man Who Walked Away Behind the Eyes" by Terry Dowling  
(OMEGA May/June '83 )

### BEST AUSTRALIAN FANZINE

Q 36 Edited by Marc Ortlieb Marc Ortlieb

### BEST AUSTRALIAN FAN WRITER

### BEST AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY ARTIST

Marilyn Pride

### BEST AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY CARTOONIST

John Packer

### BEST AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION OR FANTASY EDITOR

Van Ikin (SCIENCE FICTION)

### THE WILLIAM ATHELING AWARD

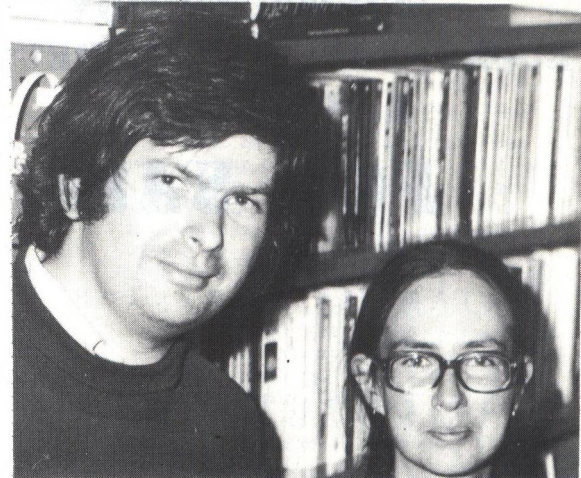
Terry Dowling for "Kirth Gersen: The Other Demon Prince "  
(SCIENCE FICTION #11)

Continued page 3.

## BRUCE GILLESPIE TO RECEIVE WORLD SF AWARD



The WORLD SF AWARDS (Photo Courtesy Brian Aldiss)



BRUCE GILLESPIE &amp; ELAINE COCHRANE (Photo John Litchen)

Melbourne fan and publisher BRUCE GILLESPIE has been awarded the World SF organisation's "Harrison Award" for Increasing the Status of Science Fiction Internationally. Two other recipients of this award were Sam Lundwell and Krsto Mazuranić.

The awards were announced at the World SF meeting held in Zagreb, Yugoslavia. The "Harrison Award" is initiated and recipients are chosen, by Harry Harrison.

(Continued page 3)





# Galaxy

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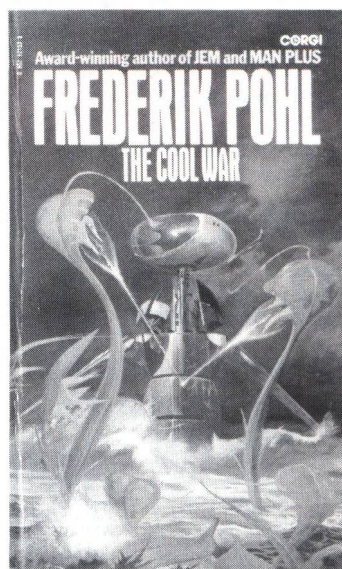
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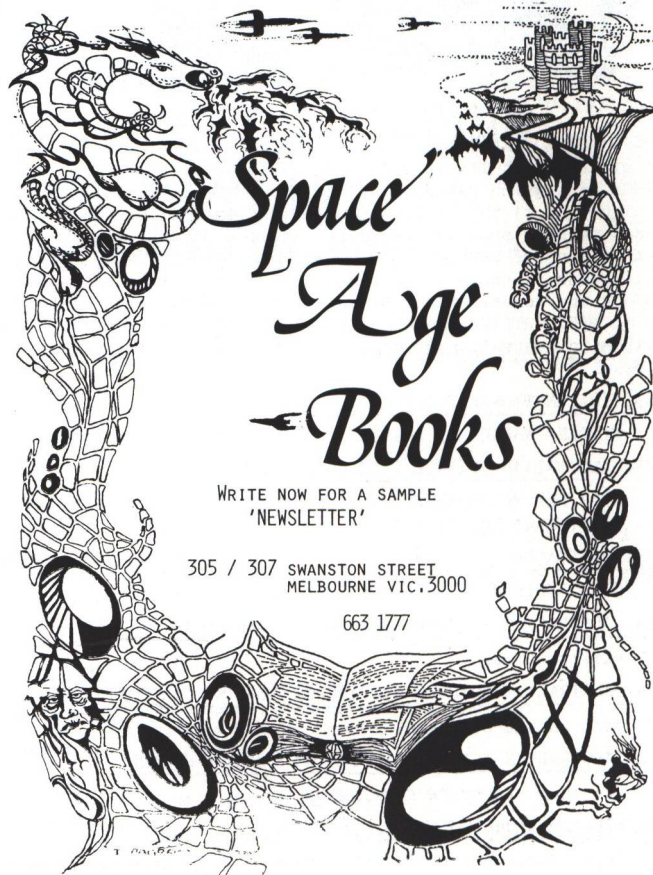
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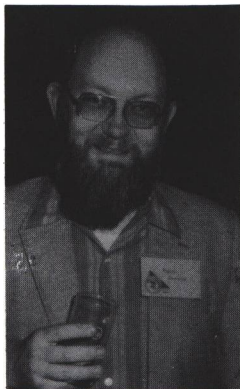
R. JOHNSON  
26 College Street,  
Sydney  
Phone: 367-6138 (Anzac House)

A GATEWAY TO THE FANTASY WORLDS OF PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE!



The Syncon '83 Committee initiated a new award for Services to Australian Science Fiction, which was awarded to Robin Johnson. Robin, who has been involved with fandom in Australia since the 1960s when he returned to his place of origin from England, was the Chairman of AUSSIECON, the 1975 World SF Convention held in Melbourne. This award is a significant token of all of Australian fandom's regard for Robin and our thanks for his efforts on our behalf.

(Further details on Syncon '83 are on page 8.)



ROBIN JOHNSON

Photo Merv Binns

World SF Awards continued from page 1.

The colour of this award incidently is emerald green, which is appropriate considering that Harrison resides in Ireland. The other awards given this year were: For Dedicated Service: Gerald Bishop (Secretary) and Betty Anne Hull (Newsletter Editor): The 1983 Long Distance Record: Peking - Zagreb, 6100 miles, to Wang Fengzhen. The President's Award: Independence of Thought in the Field of Science Fiction to Josef Nesvadba.

The Dedicated Service Awards need no explanation, but the Long Distance Record is one which will be bestowed occasionally, when a member travels a very long way to attend the annual meeting. The Presidents award is for authors who do "not subscribe to the various cliches of the field, but instead go their own way and create a body of thought which is unmistakeably their own.

Bruce Gillespie, who is one of the founders of Norstrilia Press, recently reprinted in one volume, the first eight issues of his magazine *SF COMMENTARY*. This magazine, which reviews sf and has articles and letters from readers world wide, was considered by World SF as a good example for them and was their prime reason for him winning the award.

Swedish fan and author Sam Lundwall, who is the secretary Treasurer of World SF and Krsto Mazuranic, who is a leading light in the sf scene in Yugoslavia, were the other recipients of the World SF Award for Increasing the Status of SF Internationally. Yugoslavia are bidding for the World SF Convention to be held there in 1988.

(See a letter from World SF President Brian Aldiss in the Letter Column.)

## AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS

### PRESENTS A SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY CHECKLIST

Issue #1: Books published July/Dec '82. #2 Jan/Aug (Part 1), #3 Jan/Oct (Part 2). Subscription: \$7.50 Published irregularly. Single copies \$2.00 plus 50¢ postage. From Australian Science Fiction News.

The complete listing of F&SF books published between January and September '83 will be done in two parts. It is now being prepared and part one will be out in September and part two in November.



Dear Readers,

This issue is a little later than I would have liked, particularly since I would have liked to tell you the DITMAR Winners a bit sooner. However, circumstances have prevented me from getting it to you until now. Next issue I expect to be announcing that Melbourne will be holding the 1985 World SF Convention, so I will make every effort to get it out as early as possible in September. For the next few months I will have less time than ever to devote to producing the NEWS, so the size may be cut by a few pages. I hope to have more help in producing future issues, so I will be making every effort to get them out more regularly and on time. But don't hold your breath.

Some features may be dropped and others cut, but more about that later.

Well, the Ditmars presented few if any surprises, and I would like to congratulate the winners, but I do wish Marc Ortlieb would gaffiate. I also felt very uneasy about short fiction competing with long fiction in the Australian category and I did not see the real need for an award for cartooning. In my opinion we do only have one Australian fan/pro artist who deserves an award for such work and that is Chris Johnston. The others are all ok in a quite limited way, but not good enough to win awards. If the number of awards must be limited and I do think they should be, I do hope that future Australian National convention committees give more thought to what categories they designate. Long fiction and short fiction should not be competing against each other. I do realise of course that con committees must take into consideration the number of nominations that are possible in any one category, but there is enough being written by Australian authors now to merit long and short fiction categories, which in my opinion are more important than anything else.

I am sure I will get some flack on this issue, but I am quite prepared to argue on this and the artist category.

More care should be taken in future as to who is given The Golden Caterpillar Awards. They are meant entirely as a joke and not to be taken seriously, but if people start using them in a vindictive way the recipients are bound to get upset as one was at Syncon '83. It would be a pity for this Australian fannish institution to disappear. Paul Stevens has assured me that in future he will carefully check all recommendations or nominations if you like, before accepting them.

Merv Binns/Editor-Publisher

## AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS

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# AUSTRALIAN PROFESSIONAL NEWS



WYNNE WHITEFORD has sold French translation rights of his novel *BREATHING SPACE ONLY* (Cory & Collins '80) to Fleuve Noir.

CORY & COLLINS has received grants from the Australia Council for two forthcoming titles, *FRONTIER WORLDS*, (Ed Paul Collins) and *THOR'S HAMMER* by WYNNE WHITEFORD. They will also be publishing *TEMPTING OF THE WITCH KING* by RUSSELL BLACKFORD and *SAVAGE TOMORROW* by TREVOR DONOHUE.

VAN IKIN, editor of the review magazine *SCIENCE FICTION*, and fan GoH at Syncon '83, has sold a short story called "Captive Audience" to *OMEGA*. (They paid \$108.00!)

JOHN BAXTER reports that his book on international art auctions, *BIDDING*, is not a new title and was in fact published by Granada in 1979. We reported last issue that it was new, but it is probably being reprinted. Baxter has completed a book on the disastrous Australian bushfires last summer, for *NEL*.

BRIAN HANNANT (co-writer of *MAD MAX II*) and Baxter have received a grant from the Australian Film Commission to write an sf script under the provisional title of *TIME SHIFT*. Producer Richard Davis, who did the up-coming *PHAR LAP*, has taken interest in it, and is sponsoring it for second-draft funding to the AFC.

Sue Milliken, who made *FIGHTING BACK*, has also taken an option on another screenplay by Hannant and Baxter, *NIGHT-SHADE*, an Edwardian thriller. This has also been given an AFC script development grant.

Hyland House will publish LEE HARDING's new novel, *WAITING FOR THE END OF THE WORLD*, in the first week of September 1983. It has a "smashing" cover he reported and he also said that his novel *DISPLACED PERSON* has gone back to press for a third printing by Penguin. He has also sold a movie option on the story. The scripwriter and producer are Sydney based and funding may come from the New South Wales Film Commission. It may never make it to the screen, but as Harding points out, it may be the nearest he will ever come to making Hollywood. The producer will be June Harvey, the writer John Edwards.

JACK WODHAMS has a story in the first issue of a new semi-professional magazine from Canada, *MOONSCAPE*, called "Jade Elm", along with "The Phantom's Exodus" by PAUL COLLINS and TREVOR DONOHUE.

(*Moonscape*, although larger in size, bears comparison with Neville Angove's *The Cygnus Chronicle* and is not all that much better in presentation than *A SF News*. Obviously the only thing that is preventing publication in this country of a publication similar in

size and content, is the time and the energy required. Although we have heard that the response to requests for stories for some local anthologies has not been very good, so perhaps the blossoming of science fiction in this country is in reality a bit of a myth. Ed.)

## BIG CHANGES FOR POCKET'S TIMESCAPE SERIES

POCKET BOOKS publishers announced a new arrangement for the publication of their science fiction and fantasy books in June. The "Timescape" logo was to be dropped and a new logo called "Starscope" was to be used. The new arrangement was that the Scott Meredith Literary Agency would create and edit the new series for Pocket, but the SFWA and authors in general objected strongly, with obvious reasons, to this deal and it has now been dropped. However, the Timescape line has not been doing well enough for Pocket under the editorship of David Hartwell. They have had some very good material including award winners such as the latest Nebula Best Novel, *NO ENEMY BUT TIME* by Michael Bishop, but no bestsellers.

The Star Trek books will be published by Pocket themselves, but it seems obvious that changes will be made regarding the rest of their sf line. All the books scheduled will still be published. David Hartwell has been the editor of sf at Pocket since 1978, after spending five years at Berkley and three at Signet and from the point of view of sf fans he has done a great job. He introduced the Timescape logo in March 1981, and has published the last three Nebula Winners. However the management at Pocket seem determined to make changes. It was announced by Ron Busch at Pocket, that Timescape as such would most likely disappear, but the current books scheduled into early '84 would be published. We will just have to wait for further developments.

The objection to the Scott Meredith deal was that it would be detrimental to the writers and artists in the field, on the assumption that writers represented by Meredith would get preferential treatment. Meredith denied this saying that he intended to buy from everybody, and that "It would have been a nice market for all writers". Meredith and Pocket have denied that the objections raised by the SFWA and others has caused their plans to be dropped and the cause was that they had disagreed on other details not specified. It was speculated in reports that it may have been due to the budget, which Pocket was trying to limit due to current problems, was considered by Meredith not enough to turn the line around.

(Editor's Note: The above was my interpretation of the situation from reports in *Locus* and *The Publisher's Weekly*, but as I was pasting this up the August issue of *Locus* arrived and ..... Ed.)

DAVID HARTWELL has definitely left Pocket. His contract with them was up to October '83 and he was given four weeks off with pay. "I agreed to a no fault divorce," he said. Pocket is now seeking a new editor. Meanwhile, MIMI PANITCH, who was Hartwell's assistant,

has been given the job of looking after the STAR TREK series, which were never considered as part of the Timescape deal at any rate, and acting as caretaker of *TIMESCAPE* until a new editor is found. Pocket intend to take their time and could take a few months to find a replacement for Hartwell.



MIMI PANITCH & DAVID HARTWELL  
Photo Science Fiction Chronicle

Ron Busch of Pocket said that Timescape was losing a lot of money and paying too much for the product. "We were getting great literary reviews and awards-- but the sf audience is looking for more entertainment and fun than we were publishing."

David Hartwell said in reply that according to his own budget, Timescape "... was not losing money, but they can do their accounting any way they choose. I'm leaving with my reputation for doing good books intact." Hartwell is up for the Hugo for Best Editor this year.

(Editorial Note: For a complete coverage of this matter we suggest you read the report in the August issue of *Locus*. Ed.)

## BLUEJAY BOOKS TAKE FLIGHT

New publisher BLUEJAY BOOKS, established by JIM FRENKEL, has signed a distribution contract with St. Martin's Press, who will also handle subsidiary and foreign rights. Financing has been established for the first season's titles and they will commence publishing late this year, 1983.

Bluejay will publish hard covers, trade paperbacks and "quality" paperbacks -- trade editions in mass-market size. It's first book will be a hard cover in December, *DARK VALLEY DESTINY: THE BIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT E. HOWARD* by L. Sprague de Camp, Catherine de Camp and Jane Griffith. Bluejay will also do quality paperbacks of *THE STARS ARE THE STYX* by Theodore Sturgeon and *A MIRROR FOR OBSERVERS* by Edgar Pangborn. Both of these titles were once published by Dell and the former, like a number of other titles published by Dell, were sold out soon after publication. We got the impression that Dell preferred to underprint a title and sell out, rather than have any over. Titles like the Sturgeon, *THE SNOW QUEEN*, by Joan Vinge and *TOO LONG A SACRIFICE* by Mildred Downey Broxen were underprinted initially and to our knowledge not reprinted for a long time, if at all. It must have been a frustrating situation for Frenkel when he was sf editor at Dell.

Continued page 5.





JOAN D. VINGE and JIM FRENKEL

Photo Charles N. Brown

The Bluejay trade paperback range will start in January '84 with THE JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD ANTHOLOGY edited by George R.R. Martin. Their offices are at 130 West 42nd St. #514, New York, NY 10036, USA. They have a staff of two, Jim Frenkel and general manager Joann Hill, plus a few people working on design and so forth. They will be publishing Joan Vinge's (Frenkel's wife) new book, WORLD'S END (title changed from FIRE LAKE). A joint collectors edition will be published by Underwood-Miller publishers.

Future titles to be published include THE DOOR INTO SHADOW and THE DOOR INTO FIRE both by Diane Duane, various Philip K. Dick books, an illustrated version of Norman Spinrad's novella "Riding the Torch" and Vernor Vinge's new novel, THE PEACE WAR, an illustrated version of Vinge's "True Names", Jack Williamson's autobiography and more. Eight books between now and March '84 and two a month after that. It has taken over two years to get Bluejay books off the ground and Frenkel said "there were times when I wondered if it would happen at all."

## PHILIP K. DICK SOCIETY

Paul Williams, who was named by the late Philip K. Dick as his literary executor, is to start a society for people who appreciate Dick's works. The administrator of the estate, Dick's oldest daughter Laura Dick Coelho, has petitioned the court for Williams to be officially named as literary executor. He will work with Dick's agent Russell Galen, at the Scott Meredith agency, to make sure that all Dick's published works are available and to get unpublished works into print. Membership of the society will be \$5.00 US. Write to Paul Williams at P.O. Box 611, Glen Ellen, CA 95442, USA, for details.

(Editor's note: As far as we know this is not the Paul O. Williams who has had four books published by Del Rey, nor Paul Williams the actor, singer and songwriter. Ed.)

## THE BEST OF SUSAN WOOD

Jerry Kaufmann, 4326 Winslow Place North, Seattle, WA 98103, USA, has put together a collection of the writings of the late Susan Wood. Proceeds from the sale of the collection, \$2.00 US, will go to the Susan Wood Memorial Scholarship at Carleton University. Susan, who was the Fan Co-Guest of Honor along with Mike Glicksohn at Aussiecon in 1975, was one of the most highly regarded writers in fandom and this is a collection from many sources.

## FORREST J. ACKERMAN PUTS THINGS STRAIGHT

In a letter to *SF Chronicle* in June, Forrest J. Ackerman corrects a few reports about him and his activities. He said that he would like to be credited for things he has done, including receiving the first Hugo and delivering Gernsback's Hugo to him, but not for things he has not done, like being the publisher of *Famous Monsters*, rather than editor, which he was for 190 issues. He is not the publisher along with A.E. van Vogt, of Triton Books, which has been wrongly reported in various places including SFC. He is Executive Editor of Morrison, Raven-Hill Inc., publishers of LON OF 1000 FACES! (the Chaney Memorial Volume), with I NEVER MET JULES VERNE, THE FRANKENSCEINCE MONSTER (revised and enlarged), a non-fiction work by A.E. van Vogt, METROPOLIS MOVIE BOOK, THE WORLD BELOW and other worthy works projected as future titles. He said he has a full slate and is not seeking submissions at present. He is not going to edit a new filmmonster magazine for anybody (including the one mentioned for Starburst we assume), but he will be contributing to various publications including *Fangoria*, *Halls of Horror* and *Starburst*. The latter has commissioned a definitive two part article on METROPOLIS.

And to quote specifically from the SFC letter: "A new sci-fi periodical is contemplated with myself playing George Scithers' role to a well known auctorial name in the SF field, one who recognises "sci-fi" as an acceptable world-wide abbreviation for science fiction by mundane and aficionado alike and not a derogatory term fostered by a vociferous minority (29 years late!) to apply only to schlocky SF films. (For those who enjoy guessing games, that could be van Vogt, Bjo Trimble, Robert Bloch or any number of authors who have reasonable response to my term... but there is no truth to the rumour that it will be HARLAN ELLISON'S SCI-FI VISIONS, "Forrest J. Ackerman

## AUTHORS & Other People in the NEWS

ISAAC ASIMOV has completed a new novel, THE ROBOTS OF DAWN, which features the character Elijah Baley from THE CAVES OF STEEL and THE NAKED SUN. It will be published by Phantasia Press in a limited edition in September and the trade hard cover from Doubleday in October '83. Asimov has also signed a contract for another novel with Doubleday. No details of this new novel have been given and it could be any one of three that he has been planning. Asimov received an advance for the novel of \$150,000, which is more than he received for FOUNDATION'S EDGE. This, incidentally, was on *The New York Times* bestseller list for over four months and sold over 200,000 copies in hard-cover. Del Rey have paid \$1 million for reprint rights for the four "Foundation" titles, to be published in paperback. Asimov seems to be working flat out to establish himself as the king of sf writers for all time.

URSULA K. LE GUIN is working on a new book which will combine prose, poetry, illustration and possibly other forms. The working title is THE VALLEY and it is set in California after a non-nuclear disaster. She discussed the work in progress on the National Public Radio Show, "All Things Considered", and she read some of the poems from the book, which had been recorded on March 21st at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.

ANDRE NORTON was hospitalized a few months back due to an allergic reaction to drugs. She was reported to be recovering at home.



ANDRE NORTON

Photo Harry Oleson

MALCOLM EDWARDS has resigned as editor of the British sf magazine *Interzone*, due mainly to pressure of work as sf editor for Gollancz publishers, but he will continue to do some freelance writing. *Interzone* has hired a new art director, IAN MILLER, and plans to include more quality artwork in future issues.

Nebula Award Winner MICHAEL BISHOP has a number of books in the works, including ONE WINTER IN EDEN from Arkham House, a collection of short stories due this fall. They will also publish his next novel, WHO MADE STEVIE CRYE?, in 1984. Bishop has signed with Berkley to edit an anthology of original/reprint stories by authors who began writing between 1960 and 1977; tentatively titled COSMICOPIA.

JEAN M. AUDEL has sold film rights to the first two books in her "Earth's Children" series, THE CLAN OF THE CAVE BEAR and THE VALLEY OF HORSES. Stan Rogow Productions in association with Decade/Jozak, plan to make a four hour or more miniseries for NBC. The purchase price for the film rights was unconfirmed, but possibly as high as half a million dollars. The third title will be THE MAMMOTH HUNTERS and it will be written on a word processor. The Computer Age meets the Stone Age.

JEAN AUDEL  
Photo SF Chronicle



JOHN BRUNNER attended a number of sf gatherings in Europe in the first half of 1983. *Locus* reported that he gave a reading in Ljubljana, in Yugoslavia, stood in as GoH at the Italian National Convention and attended the 3rd Festival de l'Insolite in Provence, France, as GoH, receiving the festival's Grand Prix, in May.

A new novel by IAN WATSON titled *THE BOOK OF THE RIVER*, has been bought by Gollancz for publication in February '84. It will appear first however as a four part serial in *F&SF*. Watson is currently working on a sequel. Watson has also sold a comic novel about mutation and metamorphosis to Granada for '84 publication. It will be a large format paperback and the title will most likely be *CONVERTS*. The new editors of the *SFWA Bulletin* are PAMELA SARGENT and GEORGE ZEBROWSKI, with IAN WATSON European Editor. They intend to publish every three months.

BRIAN ALDISS has put together a collection of 300 very short, short stories, which we hear was to be published by Cape, then Faber and is now in limbo.

CARL SAGAN recently underwent seven hours of surgery, with an appendectomy, treatment for throat hemorrhage, and surgery to rebuild his esophagus.

His literary agents, Scott Meredith, have announced that he has put off work on his sf novel, *CONTACT*, for Simon and Schuster, to complete a non-fiction book on nuclear energy, *NUCLEUS*, for Random House. (It is reported that L.Ron Hubbard has also put off work on his new sf novel to do a book on the nuclear threat.) Sagan feels that he can exert some influence on world opinion and "If only one policy-maker listens, it might avert a disaster." The book will deal with the dangers of nuclear warfare and energy, and is due for release in March 1984.

Meredith also reported that Sagan's new wife, writer Ann Druyen, is not working on *CONTACT* with Sagan, except in the production of the script for a movie based on the book. Both *CONTACT* and *NUCLEUS* are under consideration for filming; the non-fiction work may lead to a TV series. No contracts have yet been signed.

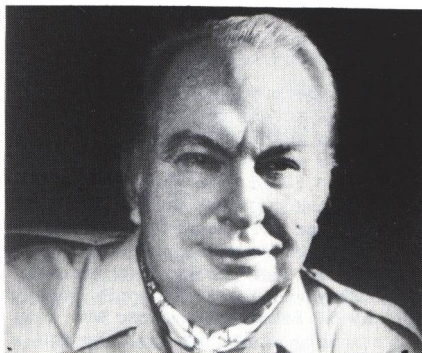
The "Gandalara Cycle" series, created by RANDALL GARRETT and his wife VICKI HEYDRON, is one of the better and more popular series of late, but it has a rather tragic background. Even before the first in the projected nine-book series was completed, Garrett contacted encephalitis, causing severe memory loss. Heydron completed the first book based on their notes, and when it was obvious that Garrett's memory would not improve, she decided to carry on with the writing of the series on her own. The fourth title, *WELL OF DARKNESS*, the start of the second branch of the cycle is scheduled for December publication by Bantam.

MAURICE SENDAK, illustrator, creator of the children's picture books *WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE*, *IN THE NIGHT KITCHEN* and *OUTSIDE OVER THERE*, and illustrator of various other classics of children's literature, has been working on the stage design for a presentation of the ballet, *The Nutcracker*. He will also produce sometime in 1984 a new illustrated

version of the original story by E.T.Hoffman, *THE NUTCRACKER SUITE*, for Crown publishers.

L.RON HUBBARD has been declared officially alive by a judge in the California Supreme Court. The judge, David Hennigan, announced that he would make a final deposition in the case brought by Hubbard's son in a few weeks pending further claims. A declaration signed by Hubbard states that he is in seclusion of his own choosing and that his privacy is very important to him. He also keeps his whereabouts secret because his life has been threatened. The statement also has some uncomplimentary things to say about his estranged son, Bernard DeWolf, who had started the civil lawsuit to have his father declared dead or incompetent.

In recent mail interviews Hubbard has insisted on talking about sf and not about scientology or dianetics. *BATTLEFIELD EARTH* got on the *Time* bestseller list an amazing seven months after it's original publication. He is said to be putting the finishing touches to a ten volume epic. A later report says he has put off work on his sf books to write a book on the dangers of nuclear weapons and energy.



L. RON HUBBARD

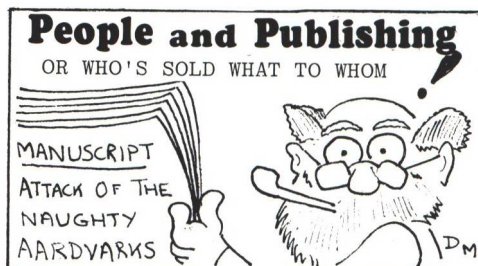
WHITE GOLD WIELDER was a top bestseller in the US in April, with 205,000 hard cover copies in print. *ONE TREE*, the previous title in the series by STEPHEN DONALDSON, reached the top of the mass market paperback list, with 765,000 copies in print. The bestseller lists quoted were from major bookstore chains in the USA. All the Donaldson titles have done very well in Australia and he was due here for a publicity tour and book signings in July. He appeared only at major chain bookstores and department stores, with the specialist shops being ignored. As far as we know he made no contact with fandom in Australia.

ARTHUR C. CLARKE was a featured speaker at the United Nations on May 17th this year. He said that human beings needed information and entertainment, almost as much as they needed food and that improvements in communication often pay for themselves quicker than transportation costs. Satellite communication has created a world without distance and it is a realistic goal to have a telephone in every village in the world by the year 2000. A U.S. Foundation has been formed to support the Arthur C. Clarke Center for Modern Technologies, which has been established in Sri Lanka, and will encourage the development of solar-powered radio and TV sets and telephones for use in remote villages. Clarke gave an interview to Donald C. Murray who visited him

at his home in Sri Lanka, which was published in the June issue of *Science Fiction Chronicle*. Murray described Clarke's home and asked him some interesting questions about his writing and views on other subjects.

C.J. CHERRYH was one of the very few sf authors who were signing books at the ABA this year. The American SF Book club will do an omnibus volume of two of her books, *THE DREAMSTONE* and *THE TREE OF SWORDS AND JEWELS* in November.

THEODORE STURGEON and his wife Jayne are planning to start an holistic health centre in Oregon. Meanwhile he is working on an as yet unsold novel, *GODSBODY*.



Author JOEL ROSENBERG has his first novel, *SLEEPING DRAGON*, coming from Signet in November. As well as this novel, the first of a fantasy series, he has also completed *TIES OF BLOOD AND SILVER*, "something of a retelling of *OLIVER TWIST* in space."

*COLD BLUE LIGHT* is a new horror novel by MARVIN KAYE and PARKE GODWIN and is not to be confused with their *MASTERS OF SOLITUDE/WINTERMIND* trilogy, the third volume of which is due out soon from Doubleday.

FREDERIK POHL is beginning work on a sequel to *THE SPACE MERCHANTS*. Berkley Books have bought *WIZARD ELEVEN* and *REMNANT IN OREMA* by Shari S. TEPPER, *DEATH OF THE RAVEN* and *TRISTAN* by Dee Morrison MEANEY, the four "Silver John" novels by Manly Wade WELLMAN, which were all published by Doubleday in hard cover, and the Robert ASPRIN "Myth" books that were published in trade paperback by Starblaze. All of these to be published in mass market editions by Berkley, and they also bought the following titles; *TOWERS OF WITCHDAME* and an untitled sequel by Kathleen SKY, *ICEHEDGE* by Kim Stanley ROBINSON, *PROTECTORATE* by Mick FARREN, *AN UNLIKELY JOURNEY* by James BLAYLOCK, *HELLSTAR* by J. Michael REAVES and Steve PERRY. ACE and BERKLEY are also reprinting a large range of their back titles.

Berkley books recently purchased *ARIEL* by Steven R. BOYETT, *CYCLE OF FIRE* by Janny WURTS, *LYREC* by Greg FROST, *THE PANDORA STONE* by William GREENLEAF, and *THE FORGOTTEN BEASTS OF ELD* and *STEPPING FROM THE SHADOWS* by Patricia McKillip.

JANE YOLEN has finished a sequel to her novel *DRAGON'S BLOOD* called *HEART'S BLOOD*, to be published in the Dell Yearling series. ALEXIS GILLILAND has sold a novel, *THE END OF THE EMPIRE*, to Del Rey. Berkley has bought a new title in the "Grail War" series, *BLOOD AND DREAMS* and another historical fantasy, *RUNES*, by RICHARD MONACO.



CLAY'S ARK by Octavia BUTLER will be published by St.Martin's Press in January '84./ GREG BEAR is working on his first fantasy novel. for Berkley, THE INFINITY CONCERTO and they will also publish his collection, THE WIND FROM A BURNING WOMAN in paperback./ GLEN COOK has sold PASSAGE OF ARMS to Warner./ NAL has bought ROBERT ADAM'S second "Castaways in Time" novel, THE SEVEN MAGICAL JEWELS OF IRELAND.

Avon publishers will feature REFUGEE by Piers ANTHONY, as a lead title in their October release./ The next Nebula anthology will be edited by Robert Silverberg and published by Arbor House.

Berkley have initiated in their Ace/ Tempo imprint, MagicQuest, a series of young adult fantasy novels. The editor will be TERRI WINDLING and publication will commence in January 1984. They will all be reprints from hard covers to begin with and the first four titles will be THE THROME OF ERRIL OF SHERRIL by Patricia McKILLIP, THE SEVENTH SWAN by Nicholas Stuart GRAY, THE PERILOUS GARD by Elizabeth Marie POPE and the ASH STAFF by Paul R.FISHER. Others scheduled include TULKU by Peter DICKINSON, THE DRAGON HORDE by Tanith LEE, THE MAGIC THRONE OF SOLATIA by Jane YOLEN, and THE POWER OF THREE by Diana Wynne JONES.



TERRI WINDLING  
Photo  
Rachel Holman

A late report says that TERRI WINDLING has resigned as a full time editor at Berkley, but will remain as a consulting fantasy editor, even though she is leaving New York.

Del Rey will be releasing late in the year THE SILENT GONDOLIERS: A FABLE by S.MORGENSTERN, the author of THE PRINCESS BRIDE and intend to promote it as their Christmas title. / POUL ANDERSON'S recent new novel, ORION SHALL RISE, which is published in trade paper back by Timescape, has been selling very well, with 38,000 in print after a new printing.

What must be the last book written by the controversial cosmologist IMMANUEL VELIKOVSKY is STARGAZERS AND GRAVEDIGGERS. It has a chapter devoted to criticisms by L.Sprague de Camp./ TANITH LEE has been researching a novel in Paris and her next novel from DAW will be THE INDIAN NIGHTS, due for publication in 1984. / LARRY NIVEN has sold a four-part serial, THE INTEGRAL TREES, to Analog. It will commence in the October '83 issue./ A first novel, tentatively titled EMERGENCE, by DAVID R.PALMER, has been bought by Bantam as part of a four-book deal for a five figure amount. The other three books are a trilogy with the working title of TO HALT ARMAGEDDON./ JESSICA AMANDA SALMONSON has sold OU LU KHEN AND THE BEAUTIFUL MADWOMAN, a "pastoral novel set in a mythic South East Asia", to Ace.

Some of the outstanding titles coming from Bantam, under the editorship of LOU ARONICA, include STARTIDE RISING by David BRIN, THE SEREN CENACLES by Warren NORWOOD & Ralph MYLIUS, WHEN VOIHA WAKES by Joy CHANT, THE WELL OF DARKNESS by Randall GARRETT & Vicki Ann HEYDRON, BROWNWYN'S BANE by Elizabeth SCARBOROUGH, DAMIANO by R.A. MACAVOY and THE STAR REBEL by F.M.BUSBY. All due out between now and early '84.

Avon have bought an sf novel, THE GENETIC CODE by LAWRENCE WATT-EVANS./ The "Dushau Trilogy", by JACQUELINE LICHTENBERG, has been bought by Warner./ NAL has scheduled for a late '84 date, MIKE RESNICK'S second novel in the "Tales of the Velvet Comet" series, EROS AT ZENITH.

Starblaze will publish Ted WHITE'S novels THE JEWELS OF ELSEWHEN and WOLFQUEST and an original collection INCIDENCE OF VIOLENCE. White is currently working on a novel in collaboration with Richard A.Moore.

## 1984 Calendars

An excellent range of calendars are scheduled by various publishers for 1984. Both Ballantine and Allen & Unwin are publishing the same J.R.R.TOLKIEN Calendar, with art work by Roger Garland. There will be a BORIS VALLEJO from Workman, NARNIA Book III CALENDAR from MacMillan (US), a DISNEY ART CALENDAR from Abbeville, FAVOURITES TALES FROM GRIMM illustrated by Mercer Mayer from Antioch, MARY STEWART'S MERLIN CALENDAR illustrated by Greg Hildebrandt from Morrow, A STAR TREK Calendar from Pocket, A Michael Hague UNICORN one from Holt Rinehart & Winston and a SPACE SHUTTLE calendar from L and mark. Full details will be included on these and others in the next SF Checklist.

## New STAR TREK Books

The Star Trek titles announced by Pocket/Timescape for publication over the next six months or more include: MUTINY ON THE ENTERPRISE by Robert Vardeman, THE FINAL REFLECTION by John M.Ford, CARONA by Greg Bear, THE WOUNDED SKY by Diane Duane, THE TREL- ISANE CONFRONTATION by David Dvorkin, and an untitled novel by Howard Weinstein.



More and more f&sf stories are being used as the basis for role playing games. THE HIGH CRUSADE by Poul Anderson, RINGWORLD by Larry Niven and DOWNBELOW STATION by C.J.Cherryh are just three. Mayfair Games are publishing a Role Playing supplement based on great wizards of literature and mythology, with original articles by Robert Asprin, Roger Zelazny, Gordon R.Dickson, Lynn Abbey and Marion Zimmer Bradley. Chaosium Inc. has published a new book based on the "Call of Cthulhu" by H.P. Lovecraft called "Shadows of Yog-Sothoth :A Global Campaign to Save Mankind", which contains scenarios for use with the original Cthulu game.

TAG industries is to release a game based on Jack Chalker's "Well World" series. Tentative date for release is December '83./ Mayfair's DRAGONRIDERS OF PERN game will feature a map done by artist Tim Hildebrandt. This game was due for release in July '83. /The game based on Joe Haldeman's THE FOREVER WAR, will feature an original article by Haldeman on his own military experience in Vietnam. / Mayfair will also release a game based on David Drake's HAMMER'S SLAMMERS.

A computer game of THE DARK CRYSTAL is under development by Henson Associates and the California firm Sierra- On-Line, Inc. Numerous other computer games are on release including "Galactic Gladiators" and "Galactic Adventure", designed for Apple computers.

In the UK a computer game has been released by Melbourne House, on J.R.R. Tolkien's THE HOBBIT.

The SFWA is looking at protecting the rights of authors selling their stories to war game producers.

The Space Gamer magazine is being split into two magazines: The Space Gamer and The Fantasy Gamer, both to be published bi-monthly.

## MAGAZINE NEWS

IMAGO: The Worlds of Fantasy, is a new 8½" x 11" magazine devoted to fantasy, which will appear for the first time in September, in the USA. It will be a bi-monthly, 96 pages, and will sell for \$2.50. The contents will be fantasy of all types as well as comic strips, portfolios, news, games, interviews, and a mixture of other fantasy-orientated material. The editor is Richard Monaco assisted by his wife Adele Leone, with Harold Steinberg of Chelsea House as publisher. Chelsea House also publish the magazine Coming Attractions, a bi-monthly movie magazine that has seen six issues and Curtis will distribute both.

The new British fantasy film magazine HALLS OF HORROR, was delayed until June. The first issue is practically a "Robert Bloch Special", with an interview of Bloch in which he talks about PSYCHO II, a look at his films for Aimicus, by Stephen Jones, and a checklist of his films and TV credits.

LAST WAVE SPECULATIVE FICTION is the name of a new, tentatively quarterly magazine to be published by Scott Edelman, 252 94th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209, USA. Edelman hopes to have the first issue of his magazine, which he wants to become "the Paris Review" of speculative fiction, out by the World Fantasy Convention.

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# SYNCON 83

## 22nd AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION

### A REPORT By Merv Binns

The 22nd Australian National Science Fiction Convention -Syncon '83, held at the Shore Motel, in the Sydney suburb of Artarmon, was one of the best sf conventions held in Australia so far. To begin, the hotel was geared up to handle conventions, with plenty of space and excellent facilities. It accommodated the 500 plus attendees without any trouble. No problems developed with the management that I was aware of, and the only complaints anybody might have had was the cost of accommodation and the long distance to the alternative food sources. Food in the hotel was expensive, but on the credit side coffee was available and the bars were open, almost all the time.

SYNCON '83 was the Guest of Honor, HARLAN ELLISON. He was the star of the show without any doubt and the attendees loved his performance. The whole convention was well organised and Ellison was the pivot on which the programme revolved. The programme varied little from most other cons, but nearly everything seemed to work very well. Unfortunately I saw little of the panels and discussions personally, as I was occupied with a Space Age Books display in the huckster room, which incidentally was the largest and best turn out I have ever seen at a convention in Australia.

After the official opening on Friday evening, there was a debate on the subject "That Only Science Has the Solutions to Our Problems", followed by a party in the main convention area, films and room parties. The film programme left a lot to be desired, at least from my point of view. Some of the short features were quite interesting such as "Boom", an animated history of warfare from the past to the future, but the main features were purely for laughs and for the serious sf film buff, eminently missable. "Get to Know Your Rabbit" is a fun movie and so is "Phantom of the Paradise", but "Robot Monster" and "Plan 9 From Outer Space" were hardly designed to keep you awake in the early hours of the morning. It was a good way to encourage fans to attend room parties.

The highlight of the Saturday programme was Harlan Ellison answering questions about his work. The audience thoroughly enjoyed his often very long answers to their questions and the numerous anecdotes related on the way, about people in the writing and film and TV fields in particular. Ellison again captivated the audience with GOH speech. On the following days he read from his works and narrated such stories as his efforts to have the script of a film of Isaac Asimov's "I, Robot" accepted; a meeting with some TV executives and producers that resulted in the series "Man From

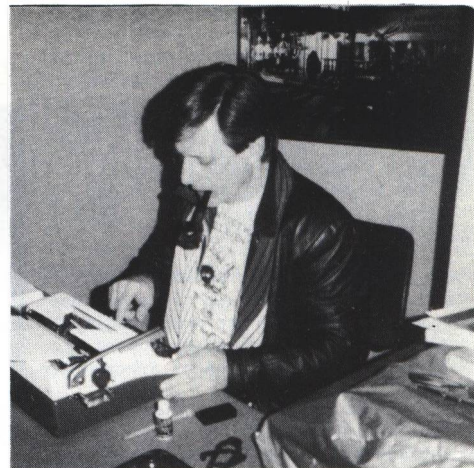
Atlantis", which incidentally he did not receive, nor does he really want, any credit for; an hilarious account of a visit from Jerry Pournelle who insisted on trying a pot of chilli that Ellison had made, not knowing that it was most likely the hottest pot of chilli in history and other items that may sound mundane, but were far from it when you listened to Harlan Ellison relating them.

The masquerade was held on Saturday night and was somewhat better planned and organised than those I have seen at other cons recently. The theme of a Future Casino was good one, but not enough advantage was taken of it. Some of the costumes were very good, but when it came to the judging I thought one or two missed out that should have received recognition, while some that won were very ordinary. "The Silent Android" featured a rather solid "female" body painted gold and wearing a gold mask, Lewis Morley with a talking head growing out of his chest, Karen and John Lewis as alien members of the Star Trek Federation, with silver hair and brilliant blue skin and Tony Green and companion Amanda Munro in black and green costume including make up, were the ones that stand out in my memory and they carried off the main prizes. Stephen Bates, whose costume and presentation included his head flying off and doubling up his body grotesquely inside the suit he wore, was very unlucky not to be awarded a prize.

Transfinite Audiovisuals put on one of their excellent slide shows during the Masquerade and the Perth fans, assisted by some Sydney people, staged another of their amusing SciGoon shows: "Sitting on the Edge of a Feather". Dave Luckett again giving his uncanny impression of Harry (Neddy Seagoon) Secombe.

The major events on Sunday were a smorgasbord lunch at which the fan guests, Duff Winner Jerry Kaufmann from the U.S.A. and Tom Cardy, the FFANZ winner from New Zealand, made their speeches; "Is Good SF Possible on TV", with Harlan Ellison, Terry Dowling, Jan McDonnell, Daryl Mannell, Nikki White, and Jack Herman, with some very pithy comments on the subject from Mr Ellison; Van Ikin's Fan GoH Speech; Harlan Ellison's GoH Speech in the evening followed by the Awards. The Ditmar winners are given on page 1 and a comment and list of the Golden Caterpillar Awards is given by Paul Stevens at the end of this report.

The second half of the business session was held on Sunday also. I did see part of this, simply because I was reminded I had made a submission regarding the establishment of a permanent date for the National Conventions, a proposition



SYNCON '83 GUEST OF HONOUR HARLAN ELLISON typing a story at the convention.  
Photo by Jane Tissel

that nobody else seems interested in at the moment, but missed the first half entirely. A pity, because one of the points raised involved changes to the number of awards, which I am particularly interested in. Two amendments to make changes to the number of awards were made regarding the number of awards and were defeated, but a slight change was made in the description of the award trophy itself, in that it can now be made of any suitable black material, providing that it portrays the southern cross, which incidentally does not necessarily have to be engraved into the black material. More discussion is inevitable on the number and designation of the awards, at future National conventions.

The site selection voting for the National Convention for 1985 was I heard, almost a coup for a rogue bid from Seattle, Washington State, U.S.A. The point is, the constitution is worded in such a way that the con can be held in any Australian territory, and that would include Australian Embassies throughout the world. I might have that mixed up a bit, but you can get the general idea, Seattle was able to bid and win. However an arrangement was made with Adelaide and they will run the 1985 National Australian SF Convention proper, but Seattle will hold the room parties. One of the parties should no doubt be held on one of the trans, that Seattle has bought from our Melbourne Transport Authority.

Amongst the other items on the Monday, the final day's programme, was a discussion, "Is Criticism Really Necessary?". This panel on reviewing was chaired by Van Ikin. A large part of the discussion was taken up by the incestuous situation in Australia, regarding other writers reviewing their friends books and not being able to give an unbiased appraisal. Not necessarily soft pedaling, but some times being even extra critical because of the possibility of being accused they were soft pedaling. This very good discussion went on to cover criticism and reviewing in general and I wish I could have reported it in full, so that all my reviewers and those who have been criticing them and others, could read it.

The convention drew to a close on a high note with Harlan Ellison reading his writings. This was followed by the Official Summation, handing over of the



gavel to Derrick Ashby and close of the convention. Jack Herman, who topped off his fine record of conventions he had convened or chaired with this one, announced that Syncon '83 would be his last (we've heard that before somewhere), and received a standing ovation.

Before completing my report, I asked Jane Tissel, who was attending her first convention, what she thought of it:

"I enjoyed Syncon very much. The reasons I enjoyed it were meeting other fans en-masse, which I had not done before, and listening to Harlan Ellison expound and read his work.

Just sitting around talking to fans was an experience not to be missed, but the highlight was seeing and hearing the ebullient Mr Ellison. I also enjoyed those items on the programme that I managed to see between the intermittent conversation, including the auction, the book signing, the masquerade, the SciGoon Show, the Transfinite Audio-visual Shows, the Plenary Business meeting at which Seattle won the Australian National Convention bid for 1985, the panels I managed to get to and .....

As a neo-fan, meeting the fans was the part of the convention that made the most impression on me, but I was also impressed by the organisation of the convention and the overall atmosphere."

Jane Tisell

Well, another con was over, but we have a seemingly never ending progression of them coming up, with CONQUEST, SWANCON, EUREKACON and KINCON over the next year, followed by more in 1985 including, we expect, The 43rd World SF Convention.

Merv Binns

## HARLAN ELLISON IN AUSTRALIA

After the Syncon '83 convention was over, Ellison, Terry Dowling and friends, drove down from Sydney to Melbourne. He attended a party at John Foyster's home, visited Hanging Rock, the scene of the very successful Australian movie, signed books at Space Age Books and had dinner sponsored by Space Age at a Greek restaurant in the Melbourne suburb of Richmond. We believe that the party then carried on by road to Adelaide and then back to Sydney, before Ellison returned home to the U.S.A.

Ellison did a number of press and media interviews while in Sydney before the convention. One which went quite well was conducted by TV personality Bill Collins, who is a confirmed movie buff and can find good things in the most obscure films. Collins and Ellison got on very well and their mutual love of the cinema and their swapping of memories and anecdotes, was a joy to see.

We stupidly did not get around to getting any details from Ellison on his current writing and publishing situation, but we know that ACE has or soon will have, eleven titles available including fiction and non-fiction. SHATTERDAY is due for release here by Granada paper backs. Volume One of the LAST DANGEROUS VISIONS anthology will be published by Houghton Mifflin in the autumn, USA and contributors with stories of over 6000 word stories will get an extra \$100 payment and those under 6000 an extra

\$50. No dates on volumes two and three are confirmed, but they may be spread over the next two years.

The short story that Ellison was writing on his trip, featuring a two thousand year old vampire, the original vampire who was cursed and created by Christ, will be published in a New Zealand fan magazine. We will publish details on how you can obtain a copy in the next issue of the NEWS.

## THE GOLD PLATED CATERPILLAR AWARDS THE WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT SYNCON '83

By Paul Stevens

JANE TAUBMAN, MERV BINNS, PETER TOLUZZI, JULIE VAUX, JOHN PACKER, LEIGH EDMONDS, and a Special Publishers Award to the advertising department at Granada the dump bin header for "Bladerunner".

Which brings me to the need for writing this bit in explanation of the 1983 awards - there is no explanation. I take full responsibility for the awards. The buck stops here! (To paraphrase a recent U.S. President.)

However, selection of possible candidates is always a problem and a few phone calls or a word or two in a few BNF ears usually produces a few deserving names. This year I did ask and got suggestions from two informants. If one of the recipients of this years awards reacted badly to her award then I can only say sorry and try to avoid doing the same next year. Of course, you, the reader can nominate a deserving person or persons for the 1984 Awards (Eurekacoon) by dropping me a line here at Space Age. All sources strictly kept anonymous, but please put your name and address on your letter. I like to know with whom I am talking and there is always the possibility of blackmail later on. After all, I have to make a living too.

Paul J. Stevens.

**NEW DR WHO** Peter Davison has decided to give the role away and Brian Blessed, who is a very well know British actor, star of stage and screen, is the next DR WHO. Blessed played the King of the Hawkmen in the "Flash Gordon" movie, the head of a nomad tribe in "High Road to China" and took a leading role in the Andrew Lloyd-Webber musical "Cats". He will make an excellent Dr Who.

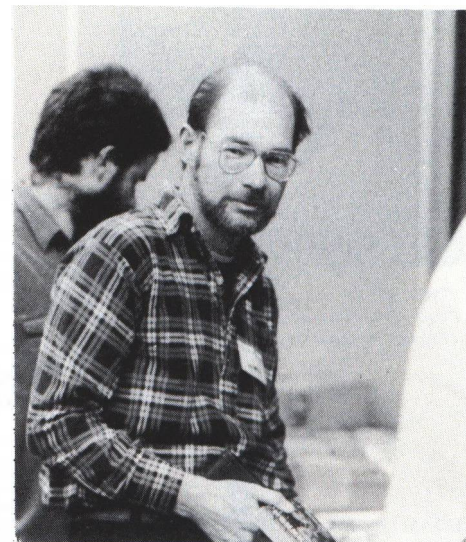
## FAMOUS FILM PERSONALITIES DIE

Two well know film stars died late July who were associated with ffsf films. DAVID NIVEN was the star of the classic British fantasy "Stairway to Heaven" and he also starred in the film of the Jules Verne novel "Around the World in Eighty Days". He died at his home in France. RAYMOND MASSEY, the son of a famous industrial and political family, starred in the movie made from the H.G. Wells classic, "Things to Come", and also in "Stairway to Heaven" (also known as "A Matter of Life and Death"). Both actors contributed a lot to the cinema as did director LUIS BUNUEL, who also died at his home in Mexico the same weekend as the two actors.

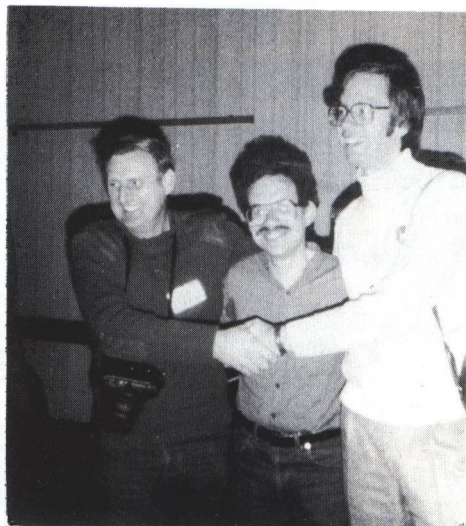


HARLAN ELLISON on the platform.

Photo Steve Roylance



KEITH TAYLOR Photo Steve Roylance



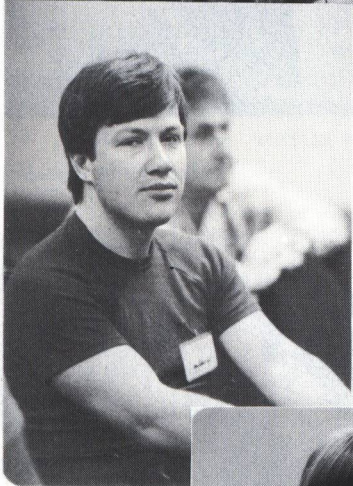
JEFF HARRIS, JERRY KAUFMAN and CLIFFORD WIND

Photo Jane Tissel





THE SF ON TV PANEL (Jane Tissel)



THE SCI GOON SHOW  
(Jane Tissel)

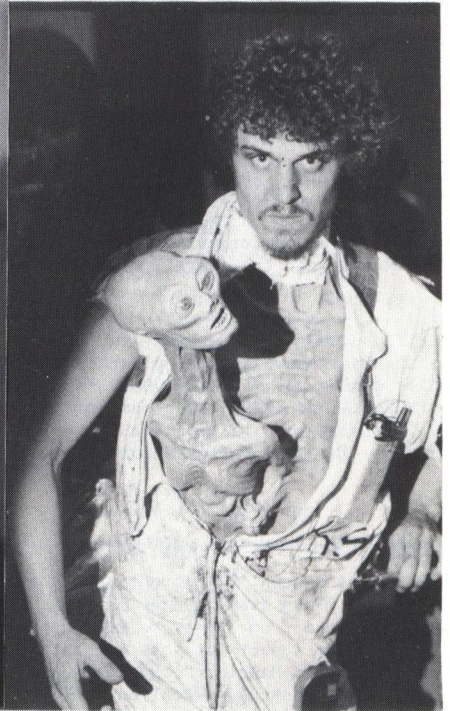
GREG HILLS  
From New Zealand  
(Steve Roylance)



LEANNE FRAHM  
(Steve Roylance)



THE SILENT ANDROID  
in gold mask and body paint.  
(Steve Roylance)



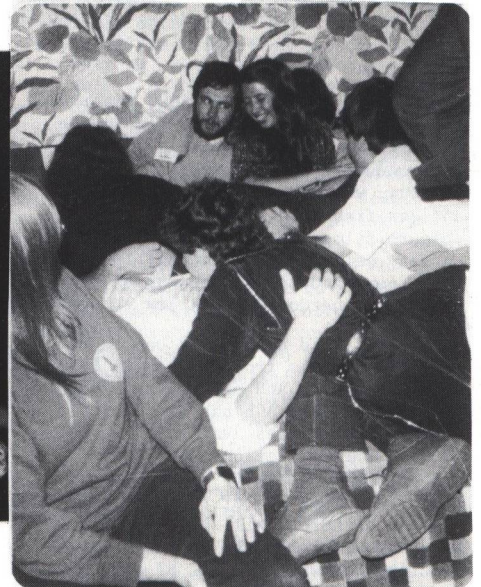
LEWIS MORLEY  
and close friend.  
(Steve Roylance)



NICK STATHOPOULOS  
(Steve Roylance)



JOHN(?) AND KAREN LEWIS as Star Trek aliens  
in blue make up and silver wigs  
(Steve Roylance)



A TYPICAL ROOM PARTY SCENE  
(Jane Tissel)



# PUBLISH AND BE DAMNED!

SCANDALOUS REPORTS, EMBARRASSING MOMENTS, CRITICAL REMARKS AND INNUENDOS in the SCIENCE FICTION WORLD

DAVE LANGFORD tells us in *Ansible*, that he is not the "Mr David Langford fingered in *The Financial Times* as 'missing' in the collapse of dubious security dealers Langford, Scott & Partners; nor despite rumours, is he the person appearing in the nude on page 24 of the first *March Time Out*..." A likely story! Incidentally we have not seen an issue of *Ansible* since #32, so maybe this Mr Langford has gone missing. Then again we may have just mislaid issue #33.

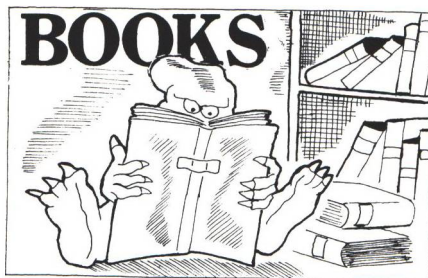
It was intimated in reports in the US sf news sources, that JOHN SILBERSACK sold the "No Frills SF" book to Berkley while he was there. It was actually sold to them later, but he still does not get any credit. This is not surprising, as who would want credit for such a load of rubbish. We believe Australian rights have been bought. Why bother?

CHRISTOPHER PRIEST attacked Arthur C. Clarke, Isaac Asimov and others in a report in *ANSIBLE* #32. He said, "We have a new phenomenon in the SF world, which I think might be called the Elderly Pioneer Syndrome. In this, SF writers getting on in years make certain discoveries about the world, harmless discoveries for the most part, but because for many decades they have believed their own misleading propaganda that SF writers have new ideas, they seem to assume that because it is happening to *them* it is happening to the world for the first time".

Priest went on in somewhat bitter tones about Heinlein discovering blood transfusion, Clarke 'crowing' about what he seems to believe is the world's first bestseller and that he is the first to organise a royalty deal with the Russians. Priest points out that in fact he has signed two royalty deals the U.S.S.R., one in 1977, which has been honoured. He pointed out that the Russians had belatedly signed the International Copyright Convention in an attempt to control the work of their own authors, not as a goodwill gesture to the likes of Clarke or himself. "...I was pleased to be published in Russia, but I don't think I have any illusions about the wider consequences", Priest said. He added that Clifford Simak for instance has had 7 books published in Russia, but he did not say if Simak had been paid for them all. "...the most popular SF writer in China is James Gunn", he added.

## MARKETS

We can occasionally give details on overseas magazine and anthology compilers/editors requests for stories. However we cannot cover the field in any detail. Authors in Australia wishing to sell their stories to overseas markets should subscribe to *Locus* or *SF Chronicle*, where they will find all the information they require. For subscription rates see page three.



## PUBLISHERS RELEASE HIGHLIGHTS

This column is a list of books due to be published July/August. It features the publishers major releases during this period unless marked otherwise, and does not include all reprints, but may include some new editions. A complete list of all titles with comprehensive details, will be found in our publication A SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY CHECKLIST, the next issue of which is due out in September. All mass market paperbacks unless marked otherwise. The titles in capitals are first release. All others have been published previously by another publisher in pb, tpb or hc.:

**ACE:** Golden Dream: A Fuzzy Odyssey by Ardath Mayhar; NECROMANCER NINE by Sheri S. Tepper; WORLD OF MAZES by Robert E. Vardeman; BOOK OF SHADOWS by James Killus; MAGIC FOR SALE ed. Avram Davidson; A COLD BLUE LIGHT by Marvin Kaye and Parke Godwin (horror); The Deadly Streets by Harlan Ellison; STREETLETHAL by Steven Barnes; Soul Singer of Tyrnos by Ardath Mayhar; San Diego Lightfoot Sue and other stories by Tom Reamy; ANNALS OF KLEPSIS by R.A. Lafferty; ROGERS' RANGERS by John Silbersack; WAR OF THE GODS ON EARTH #2: SHADOWS OUT OF HELL by Andrew J. Offut.

**ARBOR HOUSE:** World Of A Thousand Colors by Robert Silverberg (TPB).

**ARROW:** Superman III by William Kotzwick; THE GHOST DANCE: NIGHTHUNTER by Robert Falcon (H).

**AVON:** C.O.L.A.R. by Alfred S. Slot (Camelot Juv.); COME FOLLOW ME by Philip Michaels (H).

**BALLANTINE (Trade):** MY JEDI JOURNAL (Diary); RETURN OF THE JEDI ILLUSTRATED EDITION by James Kahn; RETURN OF THE JEDI PORTFOLIO by Ralph McQuarrie; RETURN OF THE JEDI SKETCHBOOK by Joe Johnston, Nilo Rodis-Jamero, all tpbs. (These are all published. An ART OF THE RETURN OF THE JEDI will be published later.)

**BANTAM:** The Compass Rose by Ursula K. LeGuin; THE SHUTTLE PEOPLE by George Bishop; THE WINDHOVER TAPES: FIZE OF THE GABRIEL RATCHETS by Warren G. Norwood; THE DISCIPLE by Laird Koenig (H); BE AN INTERPLANETARY SPY #3: ROBOT WORLD and #4: SPACE OLYMPICS, both by Seth McEvoy; Dragonworld by Byron J. Preiss, J. Michael Reeves and Joseph Zucker; Z-LENSMAN by David Kyle; Dark Forces titles: THE BARGAIN by Rex Sparger; SWAMP WITCH by Laurie Bridges and Paul Alexander; THE COMPANION by Scott Siegel; and UNNATURAL TALENT by Les Logan.

**BERKLEY:** THE SHROUD by John Coyne; SPACEWAYS #12: STAR SLAVER by John Cleve; Subspace Explorers by E.E. Smith; God Stalk by P.C. Hodgell; FIRE IN THE ABYSS by Stuart Gordon; and GRAND JUBILEE by Suzette Haden Elgin.

**CORGI:** The Girl of the Sea of Cortez by Peter Benchley.

**DAW:** THE BLACKCOLLAR by Timothy Zahn; THE GALACTIAD by Gregory Kern; Matilda's Stepchildren by A. Bertram Chandler (FPB); TERRA SF II: THE YEARS BEST EUROPEAN SF, Edited by Richard D. Nolane; THE TREE OF SWORDS AND JEWELS by C.J. Cherryh; THE ZEN GUN by Barrington J. Bayley; THE DIAMOND CONTESSA by Kenneth Bulmer; ISAAC ASIMOV PRESENTS THE GREAT SF STORIES # 10(1948) ed. by Isaac Asimov and Martin H. Greenberg.

**DEL REY:** The Saga of the Pliocene Exile I: The Many-Colored Land by Julian May; WHERE THE NI-LACH by Marcia J. Bennett; THE ARMIES OF DAYLIGHT by Barbara Hambly; Friday by Robert A. Heinlein; ICE PROPHET by William R. Forstchen; THE WIZARD AND THE WARLORD by Elizabeth Boyer.

**DOUBLEDAY:** THE HIDDEN WORLDS OF ZANDRA by William Rotsler; WHISPERS IV, ed. by Stuart David Schiff. THE IMPERATOR PLOT by Steven G. Spruill. (All hcs.)

**EERDMANS:** SPLINTERED LIGHT: LOGOS AND LANGUAGE IN TOLKIEN'S WORLD by Verlyn Flieger

**FAWCETT:** STARSHIPS ed. by Isaac Asimov, Martin H. Greenberg & Charles G. Waugh.

**FUTURA:** THE SEVENTH CHILD by Brooks Stanwood; Psion by Joan D. Vinge (FPB); Cosmos by Carl Sagan (NF); The Maharajah and other stories by T.H. White; CLAW by Jay Ramsay (H).

**GRANADA:** The Book of Philip Jose Farmer by Philip Jose Farmer; New Arrivals, Old Encounters by Brian Aldiss.

**HAMLIN:** PESTILENCE by Edward Jarvis (H); Counterfeit World by Daniel F. Galouye.

**HOLT RINEHART:** NEBULA AWARD WINNERS 17, ed. by Joe Haldeman; DRAMOCLES by Robert Sheckley.

**NEW ENGLISH LIBRARY:** Martian Timeslip by P.K. Dick; Nor Crystal Tears by Alan Dean Foster; Night of the Living Dead by John Russo; Videodrome by Jack Martin; The Warhound and the World's Pain by Michael Moorcock; THE UNDEAD by Guy N. Smith (H).

**PAN:** The Wind From the Sun by Arthur C. Clarke.

**PENGUIN:** Science Fiction Puzzles by Martin Gardner; Constellations, ed. by Malcolm Edwards; Prisoners of Power by Arkady and Boris Strugatsky; Fireball by John Christopher (Puffin J.).

**PHANTASIA PRESS:** SPELLSINGER AT THE GATE by Alan Dean Foster; HOMEFARING by Robert Silverberg. (Both Hcs.)

**POCKET:** STAR TREK: STARDATE CALENDAR 1984; TRICYCLE by Russell Rhodes (Occ H).

**SIGNET:** TALES OF THE GALACTIC MIDWAY: #3: THE WILD ALIEN TAMER by Mike Resnick; In Winter's Shadow by Gillian Bradshaw; DANCER'S ILLUSION by Ann Maxwell; Different Seasons by Stephen King.

**SPHERE:** The Last Gasp by Trevor Hoyle; Undersea by Paul Hazel; Yearwood by Paul Hazel; INTO THE SILENCE by Basil Copper (H); BLOOD HORROR by Christopher Leach; No Enemy But Time by Michael Bishop; The Spirit of Dorsai by Gordon R. Dickson; Mirkheim by Poul Anderson; plus eight other reprints in a special sf promotion in August.





most sought after Australian actor by Hollywood at present, it is most unlikely they would gain his services.

Paramount is producing a 3-D movie featuring -wait for it- an invisible man.

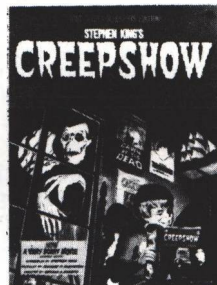
The trilogy bug has bit Hollywood and Universal are working on a three part series starting with *STREETS OF FIRE*. The story concerns a "mythical soldier-of-fortune hero in a futuristic society". Walter Hill will direct from a screenplay he wrote with Larry Gross. Lawrence Gordon and Joel Silver are producing.

Joe Dante, who was the director of *THE HOWLING* and one of the directors of *THE TWILIGHT ZONE*, will direct *GREMLINS* for Warner Brothers. This is one of two Warner projects with Stephen Spielberg as executive producer. Mike Finnell will produce this first one, with Chris Columbus writing the screenplay.

George Romero's Laurel Entertainment production company has a busy schedule. It includes: *THE STAND* from Stephen King's novel, *DAY OF THE DEAD*, following the two earlier films *NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD* and *DAWN OF THE DEAD*, a super hero epic, created in collaboration with Marvel Enterprises, *IMAGINE THAT*, a "Twilight Zone" type soft horror story, and a new version of *FRANKENSTEIN*, which will stick close to the original Mary Shelley story.



GEORGE ROMERO



A Broadway musical is being planned based on the Marvel Comic character Captain Marvel. "Annie", "Li'l Abner" and "Peanuts" are earlier successful adaptations of comic strips into musical shows. Meanwhile, quickie-film producer Roger Corman has signed a deal for the rights to do a film featuring the Marvel Comics character Spiderman, and he intends to spend \$10 million on production. A large amount for Corman.

Edward Pressman, producer of *PHANTOM OF THE PARADISE* and executive co-producer of *CONAN*, has announced the production of a second Conan movie, *CONAN, KING OF THIEVES*. The film will be released by Universal in May 1984. The story emphasis will be more towards the pulp adventure, with a somewhat lighter approach. Pressman also announced that he was discussing the adaptation of Theodore Sturgeon's "More Than Human", with screenwriter David Odell, who was responsible for *DARK CRYSTAL* and *SUPERGIRL* scripts. Olaf Stapledon's "Sirius" was also discussed, but no firm plans had been made on either at the time of this announcement.

A new Australian movie backed by Michael Edgley, (he helped finance *THE MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER*), called *ONE NIGHT STAND*, is all about a group of people holed up in the Sydney Opera House during the last night of the world.



Various events took place a few months back to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the release of the movie *KING KONG*. Hollywood staged a re-premiere at Grauman's Chinese Theatre, followed by a party at \$1000 per head. A near capacity audience at the theatre gave a standing ovation to the film's surviving star Fay Wray. Other attendees included Ray Bradbury, Forrest J. Ackerman, Ray Harryhausen, Leonard Nimoy, the widows of animator Willis O'Brien and co-producer/co-director Merian C. Cooper. Harryhausen produced a bronze sculpture showing Kong besting the tyrannosaurus rex, and John Landis purchased it on the spot for \$8,500.

In New York they attempted to attach an inflated model of Kong climbing the Empire State Building, but the balloon kept deflating and could not be repaired.

*THE RETURN OF THE JEDI* has set new box office records. On its opening day it surpassed the record set by *SUPERMAN II*, and its total earnings for the week were \$41,131,399 -- \$16 million more than the record set by *E.T.* in its third week last year. Almost \$10 million over the cost of making the film.

Despite efforts to keep the story secret before the release, the comics and books were on sale before hand and blew it. George Lucas has stated that there will be no more Star Wars films for five years and that he is taking two years off to spend with his family and establish Skywalker Ranch, his filmmaker's haven in Marin County. The series won't go on without his participation and would be three years in the making whatever. Lucas feels his duty to complete the trilogy has ended and he does not want to spend the rest of his life just on Star Wars. Future films will deal with different generations and will not feature any of the same characters or cast of the films made.

One good film deserves another! New World pictures plan to make a film of *THE PHILADELPHIA EXPERIMENT*, from a book which was published in 1979, about a ship which took part in an experiment involving matter transmission. The ship disappeared in the Philadelphia dockyard and reappeared in Norfolk, or so the book said. The script, which has had a lot of changes since its inception, now involves the ship traveling through time from 1943 to 1983. Sound familiar? How about the Kirk Douglas movie, *FINAL COUNTDOWN*.

STEVEN SPIELBERG has announced that he will do a full live action version of *PETER PAN*, starring pop singer Michael Jackson.

SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES, the Disney production based on Ray Bradbury's novel and his own script, opened on April 29th. It received mixed reviews. People expecting horror were disappointed, but the Bradbury style embodied in this story, which always was a natural for a movie, comes through. The novel was based on a story published in 1948 in *Weird Tales* called "Black Ferris".

Bradbury, who regards himself as a writer of ideas rather than an sf writer, had his first story published in *Super Science Stories* in 1941. Nine years later *THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES* sold over a million copies. He is currently working on a detective novel, an opera for the Seattle Opera Company, and a screen adaptation of the old comic strip "Little Nemo", for Gary Kurtz, the producer of "Star Wars" and other f&sf films.

The filming of *DUNE* was due to start in Mexico on March 30th, at Churubusco Studios. Raffaella De Laurentiis is producing with David Lynch ("The Elephant Man") directing from his own screenplay. Special effects by John Dykstra and his company, Apogee.

An early report stated that Max Von Sydow and Sylvia Mangano would be in the cast, but an up to the minute report from the author, FRANK HERBERT, who incidentally has just completed the fifth "Dune" book, *HERETICS OF DUNE*, gives the cast as follows: Jose Ferrer as the emperor; Sian Phillips as the Reverend Mother; Kyle MacLachlan, an unknown 19 year old actor from Seattle, as Paul; Francesca Annis as Jessica; Jurgen Prochnow as Duke Leto; Freddie Jones as Thufir Hawat; Aldo Ray as Gurney Hallack; Dean Stockwell as Dr. Yugh; Kenneth MacMillan as the Baron; Richard Jordan as Duncan Idaho; and Sting, the rock singer, as Feyd. Herbert, who saw the first four days shooting, reported in August *Locus* that, "It looks very good so far."

The sf movie *SPACEHUNTER*, starring Peter Strauss and Molly Ringwald, is on current release from Columbia and was reported to be number five on the box office list a few weeks ago. Leonard Maltin on CBS "Entertainment This Week", said he was not impressed. Almost all the action is limited to one or two scenes and the sfx are nothing great, he said. He loved *RETURN OF THE JEDI* however and that is doing great at the box office. It is set for October release here in Australia.

John Carpenter is to direct *CHRISTINE*, based on the Stephen King novel. Richard Kobritz and Larry Franco will produce, with Bill Phillips doing the screenplay.

Another film from Columbia, who will be releasing *CHRISTINE*, is *STARMAN*, directed by Tony Scott from a screenplay by Dean Rosner. An sf adventure with comic overtones. The producers were after Mel Gibson to star, but as he is the



Producer Gerry Anderson has been filming TERRAHAWKS at Bray Studios, just outside London. 26 episodes of this series made for London Weekend TV and Time Life, are being made and feature puppets, in a new "Supermacroanimation" process. It is due for an Autumn release.

The BBC is making a series for release on TV later this year, based on Alan Garner's "Stonebook Quartet", called TRIPODS, and yet another version of H.G.Wells' THE INVISIBLE MAN.

A special 20th Anniversary DR WHO story has been filmed, directed by Peter Moffatt and featuring Peter Davison with John Pertwee, Patrick Troughton, Richard Hurndall standing in for the late William Hartnell, who died in 1975, and Tom Baker, who appears in clips from an uncompleted adventure. The 90 minute special is due for screening on British TV in November. Many old characters including villains and the Dr's first companion in the series, Carole Ann Ford, also appear. Producer, John Nathan-Turner is looking for a new American companion for the Doctor in the next series.

The BBC organised the first ever DR WHO Convention in Britain over the Easter Weekend, at Longleaf Stately Home in Wiltshire. They advertised it very extensively, expecting around 50,000 people to attend over the two day period, but had to turn some away when 35,000 turned up on the Sunday alone. It showed off costumes, special effects and more, with proceeds of this 20 year celebration going to charity.

Negotiations are under way for a four-hour TV version of ON THE BEACH, from the book by Nevil SHUTE. MGM/UA, the BBC and the Australian Nine TV network are involved. A film directed by Stanley Kramer was made in 1959 and was not a great success.

Ridley Scott, the maker of such films as THE DUELISTS, ALIEN and BLADE RUNNER, is working with Universal and 20th Century Fox on a new fantasy film, THE LEGEND. Filming of this story which will feature goblins, unicorns and fairies, with a \$30 million budget, will start late '83 or early '84.

Charles Frie's Enterprises plan to do a movie of Arthur C. Clarke's RENDEZVOUS WITH RAMA. An animated version of this film planned by an Australian company, reached the stage of having a short excerpt made to help raise funding, but nothing came of it.

Production was due to start in April on the sequel to RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK. The title is INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DEATH. The film will be shot on location in Hong Kong and Sri Lanka, with the interiors at EMI-Elstree Studios near London. Steven Spielberg will direct, with Frank Marshall and George Lucas as co-executive producers and Robert Watts as producer. The script is being written by Gloria Katz and Willard Huyck, who were responsible for the screen play for Lucas's AMERICAN GRAFFITI.

TV pilots in the current season in the USA include PROTOTYPE, about a very realistic android who escapes from his maker and government types, who want to use him for unsavoury purposes, and THE SKY AND THE LAND, featuring a female astronaut.

## obituaries



BUSTER CRABBE as "Flash Gordon"

BUSTER CRABBE, 75, the star of "Flash Gordon", "Buck Rogers" and other movie serials of the 1930s, died April 23 at his home in Arizona after a heart attack.

Clarence Linden Crabbe was born February 7th, 1908, in Oakland CA. After spending his early years in Honolulu and attending the University of Hawaii, he graduated from the University of Southern California in 1932. He won a bronze Olympic medal in 1928 and a gold medal in 1932, for swimming, following which he worked first as a stuntman and then as an actor in the movies. He was given the lead in TARZAN THE FEARLESS (1932), co-starred in KING OF THE JUNGLE (1933) and a number of westerns, but we will remember him best for his roles in the science fiction serials.

He made a special guest appearance in an episode of the "Buck Rogers" TV series around 1981, but his major activities since leaving the movies was in the health and fitness field.

ROBERT C.DILLE, 59, the editor/compiler of THE COLLECTED WORKS OF BUCK ROGERS IN THE 25TH CENTURY and founder/chairman of the National Newspapers Syndicate, died April 2.

After doing the rounds of the studios, Disney will produce SPLASH, which sounds like an updated version of MR PEABODY AND THE MERMAID, about a very reserved young man who falls in love with a mermaid. It will be made by the people who did NIGHT SHIFT on an \$11 million budget.

New World have sold TV rights to Home Box Office for exclusive cable release, of two of its sf films, KAIN OF THE LOST PLANET and SPACE RAIDERS.

SKYWALKING - THE LIFE AND FILMS OF GEORGE LUCAS, is a biography of Lucas by Dale Pollock, just published in Britain by Elm Tree Books publishers.

NEXT ISSUE: A comprehensive review of RETURN OF THE JEDI by Shayne McCormack.

The passing of Crabbe and Dille marks the passing of an era for those of us whose first taste of sf was the "Flash Gordon" and "Buck Rogers" serials and comic strips.

ZENNA HENDERSON, 65, died May 11, of cancer.

Henderson, nee Zenna Chlarson, was born November 1, 1917, near Tucson, Arizona. She received a BA in education from Arizona State in 1940 and taught at a Japanese-American internment camp near Arizona during World War II, a U.S. Air Force base near Paris from 1956 to 1958, and later held posts in Connecticut and Arizona. She was married, but was divorced after seven years and she had no children.

Her first published story was "Come On Wagon!" (F&SF, 1951) and "Ararat" (F&SF 1952). She was best known for her series of stories, "The People", which were published in book form as PILGRIMAGE: THE BOOK OF THE PEOPLE ('61), and THE PEOPLE: NO DIFFERENT FLESH ('66). Her only other two books, also collections were THE ANYTHING BOX ('66) and HOLDING WONDER ('71). The "People" stories featured a group of alien humanoids who found refuge on Earth and usually revolved around the young members. A movie was made for TV called THE PEOPLE starring William Shatner and Kim Darby. Branded as over sentimental by the critics, Henderson's stories had many fans. We all wish she had written many more.

BYRON KENNEDY, film producer, was fatally injured in a helicopter crash on Sunday the 17th of July. His young companion in the helicopter which Kennedy was piloting, 15 year old Victor Evatt, managed to drag him from the copter 80km southwest of Sydney. But Kennedy, whose back was broken in the crash, died on the lake's shore during the night. A search involving six helicopters had failed to find the pair.

Kennedy, 32, was the producer of the "Mad Max" films and the TV special that dramatized the Australian political drama of 1975, "The Dismissal", in which the Federal Labour Government led by Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, was sacked by the Governor General.

Kennedy worked with director George Miller on a documentary "Violence in the Cinema", which received world acclaim in 1971. They went on to work together on other projects including the "Mad Max" films. The Australian film industry could ill afford to lose a man of his ability.

IVAN TORS, television and film producer, died June 4th of a heart attack while touring Brazil's Matto Grosso Plateau. He would have turned 67 the next week. Tors began his TV career with 78 episodes of SCIENCE FICTION THEATRE in '55. He later went on to produce such nature-oriented films and series such as SEA HUNT, FLIPPER, RHINO, and GENTLE BEN.

GEORGES REMI (HERGE), 75, Belgian artist-creator of the internationally known comic strip TINTIN, died in March '83. The strip originally appeared in Belgian newspapers and was later published in 23 books, in thirty different languages, with eighty million copies being sold.



DAME REBECCA WEST, 90, died March 15 at her London home. She had been ill for several months. Her real name was Cecily Isobel Andrews and she was born on Christmas Day, 1892, in county Kerry, Ireland. She took her pen name from Ibsen's "Rosmerholm", when she started writing in 1911. She lived with H.G.Wells for ten years. Their son, Anthony West (born 1914), is also a novelist and critic. She was best known as a reporter, essayist, political commentator and historian, but she wrote some fiction including one fantasy novel HARRIET HUME: A LONDON FANTASY. Her best known work, BLACK LAMB AND GREY FALCON (1941), a study of Yugoslavia and the roots of the two World Wars, was the culmination of her work as reporter and political commentator.

JOHN MASTERS, 68, the well known adventure writer, died in early May of heart problems. He was born in Calcutta, the fifth generation of a family serving the British in India. Almost all of his novels were set, in, or featured India in some way. Only two were in any way fantasy: THE BREAKING STRAIN ('67) and THE ROCK ('70), but the mysticism and Kiplingesque style of his writing made it of interest to fantastic adventure fans.



There seems to be more and more awards cropping up every year. Here are a few of them: The first Compton N.Crook Memorial Award for best first novel, was won by COURTSHIP RITE by Donald Kingsbury. It was presented at Balticon. The first Scottish Book of the Year Award went to LANARK by Alasdair Gray. The Libertarian Futurist Society has added a Prometheus Hall of Fame, for "classic Libertarian novels of the past", to its Prometheus award for the Best Libertarian Novel for the year. This year's awards will be given at Constellation, the 1983 World Convention. The winners will receive the Hayek Half Half Piece, a privately minted gold coin. Hall of Fame nominees include Robert Heinlein and Ayn Rand.

An organisation of 'left' and 'progressive' writers and readers calling themselves The Red Shift Readers and Writers Collective of New Haven CT, are planning to give the Red Shift Award for literature of redeeming socialist value. They plan to start a magazine also. Contact Peter J.Krala, P.O.Box 946, New Haven, CT 06504, U.S.A. if interested.

Forbidden Planet bookstore have initiated a number of awards for best sf novel, fantasy novel, short story, anthology, new writer, magazine and book cover. Plus various awards for comics. Results were to be announced at a banquet in New York on July 2nd.

#### THE BRITISH SF ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The 1982 British SF Association Awards were presented at Albalcon 2, the British national convention, held over Easter weekend 1983. The nominations and the **14** winners (underlined), were as follows:

Best Novel: HELLICONIA SPRING by Brian Aldiss, No Enemy But Time by Michael Bishop, Little, Big by John Crowley, The Divine Invasion by Philip K.Dick, and The Sword of the Lictor by Gene Wolfe. Best Short Fiction: "Kitemaster" by Keith Roberts, "Myths of the Near Future" by J.G.Ballard, "Overture for a Midsummer Night's Dream" by Angela Carter, "The Dissemblers" by Gary Kilworth and "The Third Test" by Andrew Weiner. The sources were not given in this report. The Best Media Presentation: BLADERUNNER directed by Ridley Scott, Another Flip For Dominic (BBC Teleplay), E.T. The Extraterrestrial directed by Stephen Spielberg, Mad Max 2 directed by George Miller and Tron directed by Stephen Lisberger. Best Artist: TIM WHITE, Peter Goodfellow, Peter Jones and Bruce Pennington.

Albalcon 2 was held at the Central Hotel Glasgow. Dave Langford, who was toastmaster, announced the awards. Between 500 and 800 people attended some part of the convention, but reports differ. The Guests of Honor were Marion Zimmer Bradley and James White. Other authors there included Bob Shaw, Robert Holdstock, John Brunner, and Sam Lundwall. A large part of the programme was taken up with associated subjects such as war gaming, space flight and other fringe items and not enough about sf, reported Joseph Nicholls in *Locus*. At the convention bidding session the Eurocon-combined-with-Eastercon bid co-chaired by John Brunner was successful by a very large margin. Malcolm Edwards who was chairman of the opposing Eastercon bid, was not at the con to handle the presentation of his bid. (See *CONVENTIONS* for more details. Ed.)

THE WORLD FANTASY AWARDS will be given at the World Fantasy Convention to be held in Chicago at the Marriott O'Hare Hotel, October 28-30 1983. The judges are Sharon Jarvis, Betsy Wollheim, Robert Booth, John Coyne and Alan Ryan. The trophies are designed by Gahan Wilson. Anybody requiring more information about the convention or the awards should write to the Secretary(?) Peter Pautz, 68 Countryside Apts., Hackettstown, NJ 07840 USA or Robert Weinberg (Con Chairman) P.O.Box 423, Oak Forest, IL 60452, USA (312-687-5765)

Only 155 votes came in for the Nebula Awards out of a possible 570 eligible to vote. A sad state of affairs. Percentage wise, it is probably no worse than the Hugo or even better than the Ditmars, but the SFWA has a way in our opinion of getting over their problem with the Nebulas. Why not allow all members to nominate (reduce the associate membership costs while they are at it) and pick a jury to decide on the final winners. Or alternatively let the jury do all the work, using exactly the same system as the World Fantasy Awards.

Moscon 5 will give the 5th annual Lensman Award in September to the 1982 book in the "Doc" Smith tradition.

Andre Norton won the 1983 Skylark Award, presented at Boskone in February.

THE DITMARS - Australian SF Achievement Awards, were given at Syncon '83, National Australian SF Convention in June. Details pages 1 & 3.

## LOCUS AND SF CHRONICLE F AND SF POLLS

If the bestseller lists mean anything, 2010: ODYSSEY TWO or FOUNDATION'S EDGE should win the Hugo this year, but FRIDAY was the best we have seen from Heinlein for a while, THE PRIDE OF CHANUR is a great space opera and better than Cherryh's Hugo winner of last year DOWNBELOW STATION. The other two, THE SWORD OF THE LICTOR and COURTSHIP RITE are perhaps a little too literary to win Hugos. A good indication as to what will win is the polls conducted by *LOCUS* and *SF CHRONICLE*. We cannot give you the full details of their polls, but it is to look at the top novels as voted for by their readers. The top 15 novels in the *LOCUS* poll were as follows: 1) FOUNDATION'S EDGE by Isaac Asimov, 2) 2010: ODYSSEY TWO by Arthur C.Clarke, 3) FRIDAY by Robert Heinlein, 4) THE PRIDE OF CHANUR by C.J.Cherryh, 5) COURTSHIP RITE by Donald Kingsbury, 6) HELLICONIA SPRING by Brian Aldiss, 7) CRYSTAL SINGER by Anne McAffrey, 8) STARBURST by Frederick Pohl, 9) MERCHANTER'S LUCK by C.J.Cherryh, 10) LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING by Douglas Adams, 11) THE GOLDEN TORC by Julian May, 12) HAWKMISTRESS by Marion Zimmer Bradley, 13) RODERICK by John Sladek, 14) NO ENEMY BUT TIME by Michael Bishop, 15) EYE OF CAT by Roger Zelazny. The Best Fantasy novel in the *Locus* Poll (top 5 only) were: 1) THE SWORD OF THE LICTOR by Gene Wolfe, 2) THE CITADEL OF THE AUTARCH by Gene Wolfe, 3) FEVRE DREAM by George R.R.Martin, 4) THE ONE TREE by Stephen Donaldson and 5) THE TRANSMIGRATION OF TIMOTHY ARCHER by Philip K.Dick. The Best First Novels were 1) COURTSHIP RITE by Donald Kingsbury, 2) THE RED MAGICIAN by Lisa Goldstein, 3) THE WINDHOVER TAPES: An Image Of Voices by Warren Norwood, 4) LADY OF LIGHT by Diana Paxson and 5) DREAMRIDER by Sandra Miesel. 6) was Dave Langford's THE SPACE EATER (I thought I had better mention that one or Dave would have cut me off *Ansible's* subscription list. Ed.)

The *S F Chronicle* list held no surprises and the top three novels were THE SWORD OF THE LICTOR, FOUNDATION'S EDGE and 2010: ODYSSEY TWO.

Among the other winners in the *Locus* poll were: Best Novella: "Souls" by Joanna Russ; Best Novelette: "Djinn, No Chaser" by Harlan Ellison; Best Short Story: "Sur" by Ursula Le Guin; Best Anthology: THE BEST SF OF THE YEAR # 11 edited by Terry Carr; Best Single Author Collection: THE COMPASS RISE by Ursula K.Le Guin; Best Non-Fiction/Reference: THE ENGINES OF THE NIGHT by Barry Malzberg.

*S F Chronicle* tries to give a broader coverage of the field in its poll and it included: Best Dramatic Presentation: BLADERUNNER; Best Professional Editor: Edward L.Ferman; Best Fan Writer: Richard E.Geis; Best Fan/Fanzine Artist: Alexis Gilliland; Best Fan Artist/Conventions: No award, but Linda Michaels came second; Best Professional Artist: Michael Whelan; Best Fanzine: Mike Glyer's *FILE 770*; Best Semi-Prozine (we will let you guess that one, but *Locus* came second); and finally The Best Regional Convention: World Fantasy Convention.

**MELBOURNE in '85**





## THREE BOOKS BY SAMUEL R. DELANY

REVIEWED BY DAMIEN BRODERICK

TALES OF NEVERYON (Bantam, \$3.50 US )

NEVERYONA (Bantam, \$6.95 US )

DISTANT STARS (Bantam, \$9.95 ARP )

Instead of taking saunas and beating myself black and blue, I read Chip Delany's latest works and try to review them. Don't get the idea that this is an easy or a joyful task. Like me, Delany's crazy about long words and hard notions. Words like syntagmatic. ... or possibly syntagm... or possibly syntagma which is how my Oxford spells it. It means 'a unit of syntactical sequencing.'

TALES OF NEVERYON (the 'y' has an umlaut over it) will certainly strike you as a bit -- strange. It's the sort of sword & sorcery novel which is full of words like 'syntagma'. Published in September, 1979, it contains epigraphs from OF GRAMMATOLOGY by Jacques Derrida, THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF KNOWLEDGE by Michel Foucault, and "Desire and the interpretation of Desire in 'Hamlet'", a boring old thing by the impenetrably difficult French psychiatrist Jacques Lacan...

Now, it's a bit hard to see exactly why anyone would do a book which has a cover with a very large dragon and very muscley warriors and large Rubensque ladies (with the tits hidden, because this is a non-sexist book) and a text ending with an appendix called... "Some Informal Remarks Toward the Modular Calculus, Part Three".

The astute reader of Delany will notice, however, that "Some Informal Remarks Toward the Modular Calculus, Part One" appeared at the end of his previous novel, TRITON. "Part Four" comprises his latest sword-swinging, NEVERYONA, just out. "Part Two" has not yet appeared. This shows either that Samuel Delany can't count, or that he's a non-linear thinker.

You might suppose that Samuel Delany isn't a man with a sense of humour. On the other hand, there's evidence from Part Two of the "Informal Remarks Toward the Modular Calculus, Part Three", that is to say, Sub-section Two of Part Three just in case you're confused, which begins:

"K. Leslie Steiner was born in Cuba in 1945. Her mother was a black American from Alabama." Now this section is signed, in a book published in 1979, by S.L. Kermit in January, 1981. So we see that K.L. Steiner's first name is probably Kermit! (This conjecture is borne out in the high-slapping appendix to NEVERYONA.) And Kermit, as we all know, is not a black American but a green one!



SAMUEL R. DELANY

Both these strange works are set in a notional pre-history when writing, counting, sex-role differentiation, trade and four-legged stools have just been invented. It is "a world where business was an enterprise not five generations old." Despite this, there are hefty cities, a topic Delany investigates forever in NEVERYONA. There are real live dragons you can fly on if you're a bad girl, and more metaphors and exploratory games than you can shake a two-bladed sword at.

My copy of NEVERYON is splattered with comments like (on p. 63) "this absolutely misses the point of pre-literate memory skills (but see page 64!)", and on p. 158 "this is all exactly like Heinlein's latest blather", and on the next page "...then again, maybe not..."

NEVERYONA carries this wild, tedious, endlessly provocative and irritating and interesting performance forward. Its cover will appeal especially to bum-fetishists (like the covers of so many sf novels these days, oddly enough).

Delany is clearly making a lot of money for Bantam in the USA. Presumably his variety of literary games does not attract the Brits to the same extent, since I've seen no UK pb of DHALGREN or NEVERYON. Even so, Bantam go to lavish lengths to package his work attractively. DISTANT STARS is a very pretty Trade Paperback containing some of his finest early writing (from the days before he became a maddened deconstructionist), illustrated in a sheaf of different ways by several hands. The delightful short novel "Empire Star" (now nearly 20 years old) is the centrepiece, nicely set off by "Time considered as a helix..." and "Lines of Power" under its original longwinded title; plus four other stories and a useful intro. Very nice, and not at all like whacking your naked back with fronds under a freezy shower.

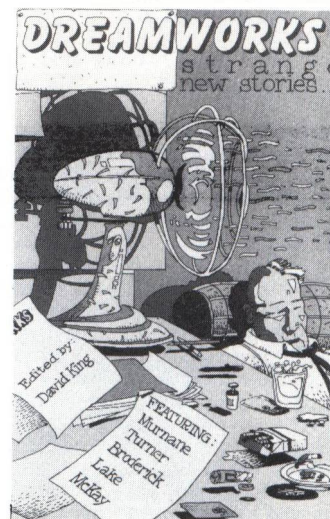
So, if you're up to it, bite your lip and get all three. But there's no need to be embarrassed if recent Delany seems just too bloody laboured and difficult to bother with. For those who haven't yet discovered Delany, DISTANT STARS is a pleasant place to start.

Reviewed by Damien Broderick

*Editors Note: Bantam have in print now, all of Delany's books including: BABEL-17, THE BALLAD OF BETA TWO, DHALGREN, THE EINSTEIN INTERSECTION, THE FALL OF THE TOWERS: TRILOGY, THE JEWELS OF APTOR and NOVA. Bantam say that Samuel R. Delany*

The cover art for NEVERYONA by Rowena Morrill

now has over two million books in print. His writing has received a mixed reaction from the fans and critics alike, but the New York Times Book Review said, he is "the most interesting writer of science fiction writing in English today."



## DREAMWORKS

ed. by David King  
Norstrilia Press; 198pp. \$12.95

Western Australian, David King has subtitled this collection STRANGE NEW STORIES, neatly evading the dead hand of Hugo Gernsback.

The twelve stories are loosely connected by a similarity in theme: all involve some form of probing into the nature of reality, often showing the influence of the late Philip K. Dick to whom the book is dedicated.

The mood is set effectively by Kevin McKay's opening vision of an alternative world in which the continent of "Austrialia" has been settled by the Spanish, who call the aborigines, "indios".

The book builds to a powerful climax in George Turner's Feedback. The story of a philosopher's mental experiment to reach back in time to the instant before the Big Bang, aided by a hypnotist and an empath, it packs a lot of profound thought into less than 20 pages.

There isn't space here to deal with all the stories as I would wish, but one that stands out for me is David Lake's THE PURE LIGHT OF THE VOID, with its humorous, fresh slant on the impossible beginning of the human race.



Then there is Damien Broderick's tense picture of a madman who believes he can blow up the Earth, and an apparently benign, domestic story by Lucy Sussex with chilling final whiplash.

Bruce Gillespie's account of a man who finds God living next door is enriched by subtle, off-beat humor, and Russell Blackford's CRYSTAL SOLDIER, is a compelling journey through the mind of a would-be ideological assassin.

Altogether, a smorgasbord of different styles and moods. Best way to enjoy it: first, a quick skim of the openings of the stories to get your bearings; then read the them in the order you choose.

To sum up - well worthwhile.

*Reviewed by Wynne Whiteford*

### RED MOON AND BLACK MOUNTAIN

Unicorn/Allen & Unwin, 1982 (A&U Aust)  
TPB \$6.95 ARP

### THE GREY MANE OF MORNING

Bantam, 1982,  
PB \$3.95 ARP (Corgi/Bantam Aust.)

Both by Joy Chant

Two paperback reprints of books set in the same world, but with very different styles to them. Though written later, (1977), GREY MANE takes place far earlier in the world's history, and has a very pastoral quality to it as we follow the lives of a nomad group who roam around the Great Plain with their Horned Horses. One of the nomads is led by events to question The Way Things Are, and this questioning eventually leads him on a quest and later to change some of his tribe's lifestyle. RED MOON (written 1970) deals far more with mysterious, unexplained events and the dramatic calling upon of strong magical forces in the battle against evil. Three children are plucked from our world into this one, where each will play a crucial role in the battle. The reader is as confused as they are throughout most of the book, as to what's going on. I enjoyed both books, but I didn't like the illustrations in GREY MANE, partly because of their misty quality and partly because they didn't fit my mental image of the characters and settings at all.

*Reviews by Jean Weber*

### THE UNICORN CREED

by Elizabeth Scarborough  
Bantam, (Corgi/Bantam Aust) \$3.95 ARP

A hilarious spoof of a fantasy novel. Every stock cliché is in here: unicorns, witches, werewolves, ogres, princesses, etc. -- all turned around and examined in a delightfully humorous way. Maggie the witch, Colin Songsmith the minstrel, and Moonshine the unicorn set out to save several nasty situations, and manage to have quite a few adventures along the way. Although humorous, the book is not entirely without serious content; while satirising the form, the author presents some good messages about honour, purity, faithfulness, and so on. As a moral lesson, they're far more palatable in this setting than in a lecture. But they needn't intrude on the reader's sheer enjoyment of the fun, if that's your preference. I **16** laughed a lot.

### RED AS BLOOD

By Tanith Lee

DAW; \$2.50 US

A collection of short stories with loose origins in the tales of the Brothers Grimm (this is subtitled "Tales from the Sisters Grimmer"). These stories are not merely re-tellings of old tales with new twists, but are entirely new on their own (though their origins are apparent to someone familiar with the originals). My favourite in the book is the last, and one which I did not spot for its origin. Titled "Beauty", it takes place in the future, and concerns an Earth which has a strong presence of alien visitors. Our perception of the relationship between the humans and the aliens shifts as we read the story -- and as the main character learns what's going on. Eerie and compelling, like many of the works in this book. Excellent reading, as one expects from Lee.

*Reviews by Jean Weber*

## 3 SCIENCE FICTION REVIEWS

### TWO TO CONQUER

By Marion Zimmer Bradley

Arrow; (Hodder & Stoughton) \$5.95 ARP

Two more Darkover novels from a prolific writer. TWO TO CONQUER takes place during the last years of the Ages of Chaos, when the Compact was being developed -- that system of customs whereby one fights only with weapons like sword and dagger, which leave one within reach of one's opponent. The power of laran (ESP), focussed through matrixes (crystals tuned to their user), is so deadly that the very survival of the planet is in jeopardy (an obvious parallel to nuclear weapons on Earth today). The attitudes of laran-gifted nobels is similar to the leaders of major Earth nations, too: why should one choose to make oneself vulnerable by not using any weapons at hand, when one's enemies can certainly be expected to use those weapons? As usual, the story is told from the point of view of a few main characters, and MZB spends a lot of time wending the reader's way through the self-doubts, desires, and other strong emotions of her characters, all of whom (in this book) seem to have strongsex hang-ups when they are not involved in intrigue, plotting, or warfare. I enjoy her writing very much, and appreciate the detailed character development, and the points she's making, but it does occasionally get to be a bit much. Incidentally, in this book we learn the beginnings of the "Free Amazons" of later ages of Darkover, who keep turning up in other books but about whom MZB's not told us a great deal of their origins or lifestyles.

### HAWKMISTRESS

By Marion Zimmer Bradley

DAW; (William Collins) \$4.95 ARP

HAWKMISTRESS takes us further along the path of knowledge about the "Free Amazons", (here known as the "Sisterhood of the Sword"). A major theme in MZB's recent works has to do with the role of women; in this book, a talented young

woman is prevented by her father from pursuing a career working with hawks, while her brother (who has no talent and no interest) is being forced into the role because he's male. Romilly runs away and joins the Sisterhood, where her talent is put to good use. The ever-present politics of Darkover dominate the story but in the background, as seen from Romilly's viewpoint. This book takes place between STORMQUEEN and TWO TO CONQUER in the chronology of Darkover. Again, a heavy emphasis on personal internal development, self-doubts, and so on -- Darkover fans probably won't mind, but readers who prefer a faster-paced story might find this a bit tedious. I found both books very absorbing and hard to put down.

### DREAM PARK

By Larry Niven & Steven Barnes  
Ace; 1981 \$2.95 US

If you are interested in fantasy role-playing games, and/or know some of the members of Los Angeles fandom, you'll probably love this book. Even if neither of those applies to you, it's still a good read. Plenty of action, some reasonably interesting characters, a fascinating setting (another of those Disneyland-of-the-future places), a murder to be solved, all within the context of a group of people playing an involved fantasy game based on the mythology of New Guinea, primarily the Cargo Cult. As the point-of-view character, Griffin (an employee of Dream Park who is trying to solve the murder), gets more involved in the game, he begins to accept it as 'real', as do the players. The reader also gets very involved.

*Reviews by Jean Weber*

### NEBULA WINNERS FOURTEEN

Edited by Frederik Pohl  
Bantam Books, July '82  
220 pp; \$2.25 US

There is one outstanding story in this collection of the Nebula Award winners of 1978, John Varley's "The Persistence of Vision" (Best Novella). Gene Wolfe was unlucky to be competing that year with his "Seven American Nights", which was runner-up; however, it seems to be meant as the first part of a projected novel rather than as a true novella. The winning novel that year was Vonda N. McIntyre's DREAMSNAKE, which began life as a Nebula-winning novelette as long ago as 1973; there doesn't seem to me to be a lot of point in printing an excerpt from it here, as people are likely to want to read the whole work: perhaps it would be better to print an interview with the winning novelist in such anthologies. For the record, the other stories included are "Stone" by Edward Bryant and "Cassandra" by C.J. Cherryh (Best Short Story and Runner-up); and "A Glow of Candles, A Unicorn's Eye" by Charles L. Grant (Best Novelette and next-best story in the anthology, about the decay of acting in our near future - and how it may be revived).

1978 must have been the year I finally lost the race to keep up with my magazine readings, because I had read none of these stories before doing this review



(not even DREAMSNAKE); consequently, this is also the first Nebula Winners anthology that I've read. Looking back at past winners, I can see that the regular reader of these anthologies would have had excellent value over the years; he would also have missed some of the best work produced in those years, even by the authors represented. There has to be something wrong with a system that produces but one Aldiss, no Disch, no Ballard, no Priest, no Brunner, no Dick, no Bishop, three Ellisons, three Leibers, three Delany's and a Moorcock for those years; and that names as its first four "Grand Masters" Heinlein, Williamson, Simak and (wait for it) de Camp. De Camp's stories are so good and so well known that he is represented here by an address entitled "Little Green Men from Afar", which says something similar about sf and the current religious vacuum to an equally undistinguished article, specially commissioned, by Norman Spinrad, on "The Future of Science Fiction". There's also a commissioned piece by Isaac Asimov, which some of us could no doubt have written for him by now, called "Science Fiction: 1938" (Isaac was there, gosh wow).

But you should read Varley's novella about a utopian society of deaf-blind people, where the two-eyed man is a disadvantaged child.

*Reviewed by Michael J. Tolley*

#### THE TWILIGHT ZONE COMPANION

by Marc Scott Zicree  
Bantam Books, 1982; \$9.95 US  
tpb; 447pp

Despite its title, this book is not just an episode guide of this almost legendary fantasy and science fiction anthology T.V. series of the 60's, but also contains background information on the origins and production of the program, a concise biography of its creator, Rod Serling, critiques of each episode and occasional insights into American television-thinking of the late 50's and early 60's. Hundreds of photos go to complete THE TWILIGHT ZONE COMPANION, ranging from stills from Serling's early television plays, to the 159 episodes of Twilight Zone and beyond. Although Zicree at times tends to be a little unjust in his critiques, these times are few and far between to make this book anything but an enjoyable and provocative journey into television's past. Recommended for those who believe T.V. science fiction is incapable of raising itself above the juvenile level. You may be surprised.

*Reviewed by Rick Kennett*

#### RETURN OF THE JEDI

by James Kahn  
Futura \$4.95 \* (Hodder & Stoughton Aust)

Being a film tie in, this is a must for Jedi knight fans, although the writing leaves much to be desired. Too many scattered thoughts and jerky, unexplained pieces are left at the end to really make us believe that George Lucas has finished with the Far Galaxy entirely. The action is bits from other films, it seems, with some explanations about the Skywalkers.

\* Probable local release September '83

Hensonism, in the form of some new creations - Jabba the Hutt and Ewoks etc... Originality, the previous trademark of a Jedi-film-book is almost absent entirely, but we must remember this is an explanation job. Everyone has to explain him or herself, get killed, get out or disappear, from Yoda, right through to Senator Palpatine (the Emperor) and Anakin Skywalker (Darth Vader). We trust the film is up to the high standards set by its predecessors in action, technique and beauty of art and form. If not, it would be good indeed, to leave the Far Galaxy until something original comes along, and certainly the opening for a new villain is there - who would replace Darth Vader? The big query now for Lucas, surely! Better writers would be welcome for these spin-offs. Only Brian Daley, who writes the unfilmed Han Solo adventures, is anywhere near the standard required in print for SF writing. The others rely heavily on George Lucas' films to sell books, an odd way of being literate, surely.

But for just an explanatory read, this is alright - and the correct address of the one and only truly "Official 'Star Wars' Fan Club" is in the back leaf for fans. Beware of imitations!

*Reviewed by Josephine Dorian.*

#### THE GRAY PRINCE

By Jack Vance,  
173 pp, Coronet Books, £1.25

#### ECOTOPIA EMERGING

by Ernest Callenbach  
Bantam Books US \$3.50

Jack Vance would never have become anything with books like THE GRAY PRINCE. It is badly told and an inadequate story with a cynical ending. One of the great disadvantages ECOTOPIA EMERGING labours under is the inability of the author to write fiction or understand politics. Everything goes too easily and the men allow the persons to create Ecotopia in a most unlikely fashion. It is naive and chauvinistic and dull.

*Reviewed by John J. Alderson.*

#### SCIENCE FICTION SPECIALS

Volumes 39 - 43

Sidgwick & Jackson (Hutchinson Group Australia) HCS Each \$21.95 ARP

Sidgwick and Jackson have in the past been a regular publisher of hard cover sf, and every so often they bind together two or three titles in omnibus volumes. They are annoying for collectors and libraries, as they are difficult to catalogue when they mix up different authors. However they are good value.

- #39 LEVIATHAN'S DEEP by Jayge Carr, HOW THE GODS WOVE IN KYRANNOON by Ardath Mayhar and THE RAVENS OF THE MOON by Charles L. Grant.
- #40 FALSE DAWN, TIME OF THE FOURTH HORSEMAN and CAUTIONARY TALES by Chelsea Quinn Yarbro
- #41 SIGHT OF PROTEUS and THE WEB BETWEEN THE WORLDS by Charles Sheffield
- #42 TITAN By John Varley and TIN WOODMAN by Dennis R. Bailey & David F. Bischoff
- #43 PEBBLE IN THE SKY by Isaac Asimov and THE SCIENCE FICTIONAL SOLAR SYSTEM Edited by Isaac Asimov. (Ed.)



OF RECENT SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY  
BOOKS AND FILMS  
By PAUL J. STEVENS

#### FOUNDATION'S EDGE

by Isaac Asimov  
Granada; HC ; \$19.95 ARP (Methuen Aust.)

1982/83 was a big year for science fiction. Three top selling writers, (not necessarily the best three writers of science fiction), all turned out books that not surprisingly, have got onto the Hugo ballot as best sf novel of the year. I refer to Asimov, Heinlein (FRIDAY) and Clarke (2010) as the big three. This year, as last, I may just put 'no award' down as my choice for best novel, because I am not convinced that any of the big three produced a novel that is worthy of a Hugo.

The Asimov novel, which Mervyn pursued me to review after listening to me discussing it verbally, is a perfect example of what is wrong with all three books. It is well plotted, well written and things happen logically. So far so good. But something is missing from the novel that is hard to pin down. I think it is that sense of wonder that we hear so much about when sf writing is discussed.

FOUNDATION'S EDGE follows on directly from the first three books and you find that the first foundation on Terminus has recovered from the events of FOUNDATION AND EMPIRE when the Mule conquered them and so upset the Seldon Plan. Feeling pleased and smug the mayor of Terminus is worried about the Second Foundation and sends out a dissident young councillor, as a sort of 'lightning rod', to search for and uncover a still functioning Second Foundation.

The Second Foundation is just as smug with the success of the Seldon Plan, but they are also experiencing dissension in the ranks and send a young man of their own to follow and counter the plans of the first Foundation. Each of the young men has a companion, and each is being subtly manipulated into searching for the origin of the human race, and the planet from where everything started. Very little occurs as all this builds up to a confrontation between the representatives of the First and the Second Foundation, who are in orbit around a mysterious planet. Not Earth, but it does have a possible solution to the eventual evolution of the human race.

If, when having finished the book, the reader wonders why it took so long to get to a sort of finish where he/she has more unanswered questions than when he/she started, there is a sure smell of sequel in the air. I am sure that at least two more books will follow, which may answer the questions raised in FOUNDATION'S EDGE.

#### LAUGHING SPACE

Edited by Isaac Asimov & Jo Jeppson  
Robson Books HC; \$22.95 ARP (Hutchinson.)

As the cover blurb says, this volume **17**



is an anthology of Science Fiction humor, and certainly this collection of stories and cartoons makes good reading and is good value for your dollar.

#### FALL OF THE SHELL

by Paul O. Williams  
Ballantine; pb; \$2.50 US

Another new writer. This is volume #4 of the Pelbar cycle, a series that is always readable and very interesting. A devastated Earth tries to recover from a nuclear war a thousand years earlier and one small area in the old USA slowly rediscovers civilisation, despite barbarians and disease. More books to follow.

#### TEA WITH THE BACK DRAGON

by R.A. MacAvoy  
Bantam; pb; \$2.75 US

A new writer, with a story that is a charming little fantasy about a dragon who has become a man, and who must solve a crime involving computer fraud. The characters are well drawn, though perhaps the reader would like to have been told a little bit more about the nature of chinese dragons.

#### THE PRISONER OF ZHAMANAK

by L. Sprague de Camp  
Ace; pb; \$2.50 US

#5 in the Krishna series that started back in 1949, in the pages of Astounding. Good interplanetary fun of the type that they don't write anymore.

#### JHEREG

by Steven Brust  
Ace; pb; \$2.50 US

And yet another (sigh) new writer who turns out a fantasy that is better than the usual run of stuff. The plot unfolds nicely and the characters are fun with a slightly different morality, and a different view of death. Worth reading.

#### KHI TO FREEDOM

by Ardath Mayhar  
Ace; pb; \$2.50 US

Not a bad story that could continue on, but it won't win a Hugo.

#### THE SORCERER'S SKULL CENOTAPH ROAD #2

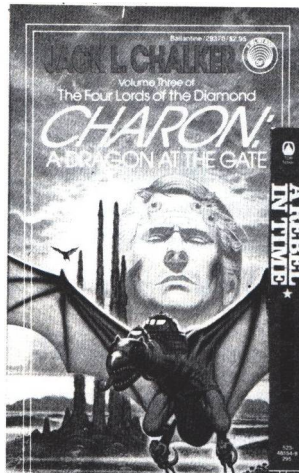
by Robert E. Vardeman  
Ace; pb; \$2.75 US

An interesting continuation of a fantasy series that promises to go on another five or ten books, as our hero battles the dread sorcerer with only his own powers (as yet undefined), a friendly eight-foot-high spider, and a girlfriend who is lost between the worlds. Very readable.

#### ULLER UPRISING

by H. Beam Piper  
Ace; pb; \$2.75 US

The complete text of an early Piper story that was long out of print. A company on an alien world faces a rebellion of ignorant natives in a story that was based on the British in India in the mid-1800's. A good story from a writer who should have gone on to become the equal of Clarke, Heinlein and Herbert.



#### THE FOUR LORDS OF THE DIAMOND

- #1 LILITH: A SNAKE IN THE GRASS : \$2.50 US
- #2 CERBERUS: A WOLF IN THE FOLD ; \$2.50 US
- #3 CHARON: A DRAGON AT THE GATE ; \$2.95 US
- #4 MEDUSA: A TIGER BY THE TAIL . \$2.95 US

by Jack L. Chalker  
Del Rey Science Fiction; Ballantine pb.

There is no doubt about it, Jack Chalker is one of the most inventive newer writers around. First with the five books based on the Well World and now the four books based on a planetary system called the Warden Diamond. A planetary system with four different worlds where the criminals of the galaxy are exiled instead of being brain-wiped, a system that has an inbuilt bug that infiltrates every living thing and changes it, differently on each planet.

Chalker takes the reader to each world in turn, each time giving the reader just a bit more of the puzzle until with book #4 the entire plot has been laid out and solved quite satisfactorily(?)...

#### A REBEL IN TIME

by Harry Harrison  
TOR; pb ; \$3.50 US

A redneck crazy, who wants the South to win the American Civil War, steals the plans for making a cheap, easily manufactured machine gun. He then utilises an experimental time machine to go back and change history. A negro with Army Intelligence is assigned to follow him and stop him from carrying out his plans. An interesting idea well told. Harry has done it again!

#### ECLIPSING BINARIES THE FAMILY D'ALEMBERT #8

by E.E. 'Doc' Smith with Stephen Goldin  
Berkly; pb; \$2.50 US

If you have read the earlier series then you will want to read this. For Doc Smith fans only. Space opera/adventure.

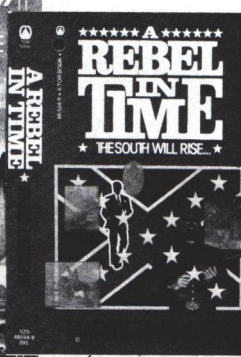
#### THE BRONZE OF EDDARTA

by Randall Garrett & Vicki Ann Heydron  
Bantam; pb; \$2.95 US

The third book in a series that started with THE STEEL OF RAITHSKAR and went on to THE GLASS OF DYSKORNIS. The story is good, things happen logically and a major plot thread is wound up in this third part though yet a FOURTH section is promised for 1984.

#### BOOKS

Continued  
from page 11



STAR/TARGET: MACABRE RAILWAY STORIES ed. by Ronald Holmes; DR WHO - FOUR TO DOOMS-DAY by Terrance Dicks; DR WHO - EARTHSHOCK by Ian Marter.

TIMESCAPE: THE WAR AGAINST THE CHTORR, VOLUME 1: A MATTER FOR MEN by David Gerrold, hc and tpb ; YESTERDAY'S SON by A.C.Crispin (Star Trek); THE ADVENTURES OF ALYX by Joanna Russ; The Ruins of Isis by Marion Zimmer Bradley; Eye of Cat by Roger Zelazny (fpb); BEST SCIENCE FICTION OF THE YEAR #12, ed. Terry Carr.

TOR: Moon Called by Andre Norton; CARLISLE STREET by T.M.Wright (H); THE LAKE by R.J.Jensen (H); TOUCH THE STARS: EMERGENCE by John Dalmás; CONFLICT by Poul Anderson; Galactic Odyssey by Keith Laumer.

UNWIN/UNICORN: TOLKIEN CALENDAR 1984; LANDS OF NEVER ed. by Maxim Jakubowski; Prince of the Goodborn by Geraldine Harris.

WARNER: KRULL by Alan Dean Foster.

A few other important titles for release later in the year include: HELLICONIA SUMMER by Brian Aldiss (Jonathan Cape); THE BOOK OF LOST TALES Part One by J.R. R.Tolkien (Allen & Unwin) 2010: SPACE ODYSSEY TWO by Arthur C.Clarke (Granada PB).

## Bestsellers

As of July 8th three books in the f&sf category were still on the American *Publisher's Weekly* Bestseller List. The number two on the hard cover list was RETURN OF THE JEDI: The Story Book Based on the Movie. Adapted by Joan D. Vinge (Random House). Due to be released by William Collins in Australia. Number 11 was WHITE GOLD WIELDER by Stephen Donaldson (Del Rey). Number 12 was THE VALLEY OF THE HORSES by Jean Auel (Crown).

In the paperbacks RETURN OF THE JEDI by James Kahn was number two, THE GOD PROJECT by John Saul (Horror) Number nine, with MY SWEET AUDRINA (Occult/Horror) by V.C.Andrews number 10.

On the Australian Bestseller list over the last six months, SPACE by James Michener (Heinemann), hit the top and 2010: ODYSSEY TWO by Arthur C.Clarke (Granada) and WHITE GOLD WIELDER by Stephen Donaldson (William Collins), both got to second place. The Clarke was still # 6 in June. In paperbacks THE NON BORN KING by Julian May hit the top in April and previously to that, E.T. and the three Douglas Adams "Hitch-Hiker's Guide To The Galaxy" books all did very well. So the high sales of sf is not just an American phenomena. Incidentally, the pb editions of the three books in the "Pliocene Age" series by Julian May, were released in the U.K. and Australia, before the U.S.A.

1982 was a very good year for f&sf. Six of the top fifteen places on the best-seller list for the year, according to *Publisher's Weekly*, were sf & f. They were: E.T, SPACE, THE VALLEY OF HORSES, DIFFERENT SEASONS (King), 2010: ODYSSEY TWO, FOUNDATION'S EDGE (Asimov), and THE ONE TREE (Donaldson). E.T. and GHOST STORY (Straub), were the only titles on the mass market pb list. The TPB top was THE DARK CRYSTAL by A.C.H.Smith, followed by GOD EMPEROR OF JUNE (Herbert), THE ELFSTONES OF SHANNARA (Brookes) STEPHEN KING'S DANSE MACABRE, GOLDEN DREAM: A FUZZY ODYSSEY (Mayhar) and THE SECRET (Preiss).

Paul Stevens



# LETTER COLUMN



WAHF-FULL

Jack R. Herman,  
Box 272,  
Wentworth Building,  
Sydney University,  
Australia 2006

17/2/83

Dear Merv,

The Sept-Dec ASFN arrived over the Vacation period and has only just percolated to the top of the pile.

Thanx for the front-page coverage of the Pat Terry - it is always good to see the award getting the respect it deserves and seeing that our choice is popular.

Your editorial suggests that Wolfe and May books might have missed out on the Hugo because they were parts of series but this issue of ASFN contains a review of DOWNBELOW STATION, a novel that was out when the voting was taking place. Being part of a series didn't stop CJC from winning. Like all the other pro winners (and fan winners for that matter) she is a 'name' and I think 'names' get the Hugo not works: next year's ballot will include the latest Heinlein, Clarke and Asimov (whatever the books titles are is irrelevant, they are all well-known and the books are getting fair to good reviews: that is all that is necessary. I wonder how many of the 700+ voters had read more than one or two of the items nominated in any category (except 'dramatic presentation' which they had mostly seen, I guess). How many of this year's voters for the Australian SF Achievement awards will have read the books on the ballot? (Sorry I left out the latest Hubbard which might be ballot-stuffed onto the Hugo vote by Scientologists in the same way that Burroughs fans once tried to stack a Hugo).

I see that a movie only has to have a smell like an SF/Fantasy film to qualify for the SF Film Awards: RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK which is no more Fantasy than THE DIRTY DOZEN or THE GUNS OF NAVARONE garners all the awards and SF Film makers can say: 'Look that's one of ours'. Ridiculous.

Alderson follows me from zine to zine, acquiring expertise in a new area each time I encounter him. This time it is Pliocene geology and climate. In the second book of the series Ms. May has something to say about geology etc of the setting of the Saga of the Exiles but why does Alderson need to try to be so picky instead of attempting to justify his brusque rejection of the characters.

Stevens' column needs to be retitled. It is no longer 'a jaundiced view' it is straight sycophantic. If he doesn't have something nasty to say about movies, then he isn't doing his job. And to start praising film tie-in novels...he'll be complimenting Vera Lonergeran next.

See You, Jack

Dear Jack,

I tend to agree with you regarding names getting the awards. Asimov or Clarke will most likely win the Hugo Novel this year, although everybody I have spoken to or review I have read, says their books are both bad. C.J. by the way, says that DOWNBELOW STATION is not part of a series.

I most certainly agree with you on RAIDERS. It has little to do with fantasy and certainly not sf, and it was a great pity to see films like EXCALIBUR miss out.

Unfortunately I missed most of the business session at Syncon, as I would have liked to hear more about the proposed changes to the Ditmar awards. I would have voted against the proposed changes, but other changes are needed. More about that later. Syncon was great. Congratulations for a job well done.

Merv

Jack Wodhams,  
P.O. Box 48,  
CABOOLTURE,  
QLD. 4510

19-4-83

Dear Merv,

I would have written before, but I was finishing off another blasted novel, this one subtitled STAN.

It's about time I dropped you a line, but you know what a bind it is to write letters. But your Australian SF News forces me to at least say thanks in appreciation for the Wynne Whiteford interview, the Chicon report, and the other good things. This is an excellent production, Merv, that pricks my conscience. The enclosed donation can be regarded as a sub, or a contribution to the Binns War Chest, or whatever. With luck my conscience won't start bothering me again until somewhere around 1986.

The piece, or pieces, that amused me most in the latest SF News was the Harrison-Brunner spat. Brunner had a go at me once over some minor item, and he would appear to be a somewhat touchy fellow. Writers do, of course, have a tendency to become shiteheads in their pursuit of a literary career. I mean, I used to be quite a pleasant and affable chap once. If the aggro is not inherent, it is certainly encouraged by any sustained effort to try and beat the publishing odds. The acquired meaner temper could have something to do with reject slips, unimaginative editors, and smart-assed critics generally.

It is very easy for a writer to develop a sense of being misunderstood, so to come to feel beleaguered and unloved. Also, alas, writers are doomed to be less bravely intrepid than the heroes they create. It is easier to write about a noble person than to be one. Writers are like actors, who are never as great as the roles they play. I sometimes think that writers, outside of their writing, are not the most competent managers of the actual processes of living. And the bigger they are, the more screwed up and unenviable their private lives seem to get. Jack London's writings can be admired, but his handling of his own personal affairs falls far short of inspiring. The same can be said of F.

Scott Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Ian Fleming, et al. So many become disappointed in their expectations for themselves, to be acutely conscious of themselves living a sadly flawed ideal. Writers are possessed of an inescapable human frailty, (itself a cause for resentment), for them to be unable, as per Brunner, to display any genuine superior majesty, that they might be able to ignore and rise above the inconsequential. Jealousy for the fragile edifices of their own self-esteem has writers, more than anybody, squabbling over the minutiae of the determinants of prestige.

It is a paradox that proves how small great minds can sometimes be. It is frustrating, but also, fortunately, if viewed in the right light, quite hilarious. It's even funnier when you're in the same boat yourself. As is,

Jaundiced Jack (The Churlish  
Caboolture Cur) Wodhams.

Hasta la vista, Merv.

Jack Wodhams

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter and words of encouragement. I need them. Every second minute I say to myself, why am I doing this? The News is doing a job, not perfectly, it has it's faults, but as much as I want to continue producing it and enjoy seeing the finished copy hot off the press from the printers, the time it is taking will no doubt eventually force me to give it away. But until then...

Your comments on authors are interesting. Most of the big names I have met have been very easy to get on with, despite the reputations some of them have had before I met them. They are only human however and they have their faults and eccentricities. They do put up with a lot from fandom at times and it surprises me that so many have so much to do with fandom and conventions.

Thank you very, very much for the donation.

Merv

Stephen Hitchings,  
62 Coronation Pde.,  
ENFIELD, N.S.W. 2136

9/4/83

Dear Merv,

I was appalled by the puerile Brunner-Harrison exchange in ASFN 32. You say you get few letters from big name pros; if I thought this was typical, I'd say thank God you don't. How can sf hope to become respectable when its big names go on like this?

On the basis of these two letters, I'd say Harrison wins both the argument and the prize for most infantile sneering.

Stephen Hitchings

Dear Stephen,

I appreciate your feelings about the Brunner/Harrison exchange and I regret ASFN got caught in the middle, however I think you missed the bit of humour in the whole thing.

Merv



Jack L. Chalker,  
4704 Warner Drive,  
Manchester,  
MD 21102.

Dear Merv,

3/3/1983

Sorry to be so long replying to yours of the 18th Feb., but I've been struggling to (A) learn a word processing system (B) learn how to use the printer (C) print and get off a new book, and (D) keep my health. My sanity is not in danger; I lost that years ago.

No, the restaurant run-in wasn't really funny, but the resolution was more satisfactory than I expected. Eva is learning a lot about her liberal friends, though, few of whom offered any support or encouragement.

Baltimore is closing in on 5000 members now, so it'll be another big one, although the layout in the convention complex is such that it will probably be easier to see and meet with other folks than it was at the Hyatt, with all those Roman catacombs leading to rooms and more rooms. The big problem is the loss of that hotel at this critical time, along with the slowdown in construction caused by higher interest rates the past couple of years that meant that the new hotels due to open in 1983 are opening in 1984 instead. Oh, well, at least this time I don't have to worry about a room. We sent the PRs air mail to all non-North American members more than a week before any were sent third class here, and so if any Australians coming over for the bidding haven't yet sent in those hotel forms they have only themselves to blame if they wind up in the sticks.

Any questions you might have on this year's worldcon, let me know and I'll try and get you the answers for the News. There certainly is no question that Melbourne is stuck with '85; even if some other bidder did show up at this stage it would be nearly impossible to mount a creditable campaign in so short a time. The handwriting was on the wall from Denver -- all 500 or so Sydney voters from then are members of Constellation; two or three hundred fans from this area who would have voted for Sydney had it not been a local bid, and an average 1100 or 1200 total votes for the worldcon in an average year. Anybody who wanted to try and overcome such a lead as you had for '85 would be throwing time, effort, and money down a hole.

The last World Science Fiction Convention that I missed was the 1965 Loncon; it's a good bet that I will be in Melbourne in '85, health and finances willing. It's a little more of a strain this time around, when I have to buy two adult and one children's ticket instead of just a single for me. Transportation alone will probably run me a good \$3500. Still, business has been good. My last three books all made the top 20 on the real best-seller lists, and just recently an auction for a new 3-book series drew substantial bids from Berkeley, Bantam, and Tor, with the latter finally getting it.

If anyone down there has a few good slides of the Aussiecon Hugo ceremonies I'd appreciate copies. Like Aussiecon's, the Constellation Hugo ceremonies are

planned as something of a multi-media event.

All best,  
Cordially,  
Jack L. Chalker

Dear Jack,

*It is I who need to apologise for the long delay in publishing this letter, but better late than never. You will have the slides of AUSSIECON I sent you, but I am sorry that it will probably be a little late for you to get any response from anybody else.*

CONSTELLATION sounds like being a great con, but too many people like CHICON. I am sure that everybody that comes over here in '85, will enjoy the lack of the big crowds at the World cons that you experience over there. We ain't won it yet of course, but in this case I think we can start counting the chickens.

*You are doing very well with your writing. I believe we have a brief review of some of your titles in this issue. Best of luck with your future efforts.*

Merv

Christopher Priest,  
1 Ortygia House,  
6 Lower Road,  
HARROW, MIDDLESEX  
HA2 0DA ENGLAND

26th January, 1983

Dear Merv,

Many thanks for your letter...I'm always glad to get ASFN, and to hear from friends down under. I'm sorry to hear you've been feeling the pinch. Me too, as you probably know. We're now back here permanently. Actually, now the worst is over and we've made the move. I'm feeling optimistic again. I'm sorry I'm not much of a purveyor of news. In the SF world, I always feel that I'm the ideal customer for newszines, as I hear everything last. But, yesterday I received my first advance copies of the Arena (Arrow) edition of THE AFFIRMATION. I don't know why or how, but one of the copies has "Winner of the Ditmar Award" printed on it, and the other hasn't. Very odd, isn't it? Anyway, I hope the copies that eventually make their way to Australia will be ones with it on...though I've learnt to count on nothing in this world. Whatever, it's a handsome edition, printed in the B-format size. The other day, "The Bookseller" listed the book as one of the ten best-subscribed paperbacks for February, which for about twenty minutes actually cheered me up. Later, though, I was talking to someone at the publishers and discovered this was news to them...

Keep in touch.

Very Best,

Chris.

Dear Chris,

*Yes, we have THE AFFIRMATION now and it does have "Ditmar Winner" printed above the title. You must have picked up one of the Australian copies. We do not find this B-format size as you put it,*

*a good thing or a bad thing as far as selling a book is concerned. As a specialist shop we try and bring non-sf books by known sf authors to the attention of customers, by displaying them with the sf, but this size book is hard to fit in the shelves. We have found a lot of resistance to large format fiction paperbacks in the past, but if it is a title readers want they will buy it no matter what edition it is in now. When it comes to getting "imaginative" fiction accepted and displayed along with any other fiction, which purely as a personal thing I do not go along with at any rate, the B-format is a good way of achieving that end.*

Merv

Darrell Schweitzer,  
113 Deepdale Road,  
STRAFFORD PA 19087  
USA

June 24th, 1983

Dear Merv,

Every time I see the incident of my Celebrated Strangling Incident with Charles Platt repeated (ASFN, Feb 83), it seems to get more exaggerated. All that really happened is that he grabbed me by the lapels. Ginjer Buchanan merely said, "Manners, Charles". Platt isn't noted for having any. He made some facetiously threatening remarks. I don't want this to get blown up with the retelling, lest it seems that poor Charles is guilty of attempted murder rather than simple boorishness.

Some news: I've just signed a contract for DISCOVERING MODERN HORROR FICTION with Starmont House. This will be an anthology of new and reprint essays on contemporary (e.g. Robert Aickman) figures in the field. This will be a dated announcement by the time you can publish it, but anyone interested in participating should query and include a couple IRCs for reply. The book will close late in the year.

AMAZING will start serialization of Pohl's 3rd GATEWAY novel in the January issue.

Best,

Darrell.

Dear Darrell,

*My "Published and Be Damned" column contains reports that in some cases are no doubt not to be taken too seriously. Charles Platt seems to be a person who manages to get himself involved in situations, which inevitably get reported in that column. Thanks for the other info.*

Merv

L.W. Symes,  
c/o National Australia  
Bank,  
Personnel Department,  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

April 10th, 1983

Dear Merv,

Thanks very much for your letter of July 7th, and your advise on starting an SF magazine. As you can see, I'm back in Brisbane, but the problem is finance.



I'm sorry I haven't written for so long, but I've been very busy, moving around and getting things organised.

I would very much like to get other people's fanzines, so if you would mention my request in ASFN, I would be most grateful.

Good luck with the News and Space Age.

Lance Symes.

Dear Lance,

Thank you for your letter. I hope you get some response from the fanzine editors for sample copies of their zines.

Merv

---

Brian Aldiss,  
16 Moreton Road,  
OXFORD OX27AX,  
ENGLAND  
21/6/83

Dear Merv,

Yesterday, Margaret and I returned from the first (Zagreb) meeting of WORLD SF over which I have presided as president. The meeting was held by courtesy of SF professionals and was a great and rollicking success - thanks to the two prime activists there, Bruno Ogorelec and Krsto Mazuranic.

Tomorrow I have to be off on my travels again, but today I hasten to send you news of particular interest to my friends in Australia. One of the new WORLD SF awards, the Award for Increasing the Status of SF Internationally, went to Bruce Gillespie. It was a very popular award, and loudly cheered at the banquet last Sunday evening.

We are going to get the award to Bruce as soon as possible. Meanwhile, I enclose a photograph of the awards; sorry it is not better but it was professionally taken - I should have got the fans to do it. Also enclosed, a report on the awards and what I said about them (though everything was interspersed with jokes, ad libs, and pleasant interjections from the assembly). Excuse roughness - no time to make a smoother copy.

I'm very happy that this award goes to Australia, and particularly, to Bruce, who has helped bind you to the rest of the SF world. For your information, we welcome Oz professionals in WSF. Sub for one year stands at 25 Swiss francs. Our future meetings include some exciting venues:

1984 Brighton

1985 Guests of Soviet Writers, trip to Moscow and Krimea - all free. (Pay your own fares)

(Other possibilities like Mexico and Australia were over-ruled)

1986 Peking is a possibility. Also we shall be represented at Expo '86 in Vancouver - details currently being worked out.

1987 Tübingen, Malta, Dublin are on the cards.

Hope you are well and making both ends meet. My future plans just this summer include visits to Kansas, Rimini (Italy), Edinburgh Festival (Scotland), Eindhoven (Holland), Ljubljana (Yugoslavia for Eurocon 8), and Bergish

Gladbach (Germany). I'm GoH at the last three conventions. Conventions are almost as frequent in Europe as in the U.S.A. nowadays.

Congratulations, Bruce.

Yours,

Brian.

Dear Brian,

Thank you for your letter. Bruce Gillespie was quite surprised to hear he had won the World SF Award and is looking forward to receiving it. We do hope that we can encourage as many people from different countries to attend our second world convention here in 1985. The yanks have had it as their very own for too long, and it would be nice to see it held in Yugoslavia or any other countries as often as possible in the future. In fact I think a lot of the American fans would be just as happy for this to happen as the world cons are getting too big there and there are lots of other big US cons to attend during the year.

I hope you are enjoying all your travelling around.

Merv

---

Franz Rottensteiner,  
A-1060 Vienna,  
Marchettigasse 9/17  
AUSTRIA

March 1st, 1983

Dear Mr Binns,

Thank you for your letter of January 11th, 1983, and please excuse a very late reply, but I return now to Ortmann, where your letter was sent, only now and then, and so collected it only some weeks after it had arrived. I enclose a review of the Australian SF anthology as requested, together with some background information on Goldman SF. They probably printed about 15,000 copies of the book. If you are interested, it contains the following stories: "Creator" and "The Last Day of Christmas" by David J. Lake, "Mostly Meantime" and "Armstrong" by Jack Wodhams, "The Hairy Parents" by A. Bertram Chandler, "And Eve was Drawn from the Rib of Adam" (Van Ikin), "Suburban Walk" by Paul Collins, "Double Summer Time" by Cherry Wilder, "Vandal" by Trudy Rose, "Take the Dilemma by the Horns", by John J. Alderson and "The Specialists" by Wynne N. Whiteford, as well as an afterword "We from the Southern Cross" by Paul Collins). The book is also illustrated (horribly) by Gerd Striepecke, but in general the volume looks attractive. Feel free to use of my remarks whatever you see fit.

I know nothing about the Yugoslavian bid for the World SF Convention, but I know that there is some active fandom in Yugoslavia, and presumably they will be able to organise a Con, although one can never be sure of such things and other European organizers quit at the last minute. It certainly cannot be a mere gimmick to get tourists to Yugoslavia for in relation to Yugoslavia's whole tourism, a World Con is insignificant.

Please give my regards especially,

to Bruce Gillespie, John Foyster, Roger Weddall and the other Aussies; I should be writing, but am terribly busy.

Best Wishes,

Franz Rottensteiner

Dear Frans,

Thank you for your letter and the review of SF aus AUSTRALIEN, which you will gather from the next letter I ran last issue of ASFN. Thank you also for the other information about sf publishing in Germany. I have been sending ASFN to you but I may have the wrong address. I will check and see that you receive the last and this issue for certain.

Merv Binns

---

John Alderson,  
Havelock,  
Victoria 3465  
17/6/83

Dear Merv,

I read Rottensteiner's review of SF Australien with considerable interest bearing in mind he's one of the harshest critics going. I had given the book, plus the English version to a neighbour (a native German) for her assessment of the translation. She maintained it was quite good though said that "Pack de Stier bei den Hornern" was not a translation of "Take the Dilemma by the Horns" and that they had no word for dilemma in German though my dictionary disagrees and gives "dilemma" and also gives the meaning of "stier" as bull or bullock. But Rottensteiner uses the correct and original title. I still seek enlightenment.

I am however, most delighted with his reception of my story, and I am not going to criticise a reviewer. To call my savage satire on international relations a "broad farce" suggests that the ethics of international relation have sunk so low as to be beneath satire. Naturally, the Prime Minister's bad puns seldom translate and Dosenmerikaner isn't quite "canned American" but I rather object to them being blamed on the author. Before leaving this anthology I must comment on the magnificent illustration, a two page spread which so vividly portrays Major General Kilmore, Gunnar Redie, and the Minister for Primary Production.

It was a triumph of a sort to sell this anthology overseas but Paul Collins has had a number of triumphs. Its cover and layout is old-fashioned and stodgy compared with the covers and layout of Wodhams' FUTURE WAR and Lake's RING OF TRUTH, both of which have a high standard indeed. They are also a cut above at least most American SF (though American fantasy seems to have higher standards). Out of all the books illustrated in Australian SF News for May there is nothing anywhere comparable in the way of covers as these two books. When all is said and done a book cover is a work of art and whilst something has to be printed on it, most publishers, in particular the American, put too much on it. Collins does not. As for the critics



of their contents it can be summed up as "sour grapes."

John J. Alderson.

I received a circular letter from DON TUCK, which was sent to his friends and contacts about six months ago. My apologies to Don, as I did want to mention earlier, but overlooked it. Don tells us that he retired last year from his job with the EZ company. The main item in the letter was that VOLUME THREE of the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FFSF, edited by him and published by Advent in the USA, was due out. Also that supplements to the three volumes published will most likely be published in the future. He thanks all the people that have been helping him by supplying details of books contents etc, and offers his help where he can. He recommends a number of bibliographic reference volumes published over the last year.

He told us that he is taking a bit more interest in Tasmanian fan activities and that he is selling most of his collection. You can write to him at P.O. Box 44, Lindisfarne, Tasmania 7015, for more details. Volume 3 of the Encyclopedia is now out and on sale in the USA. Space Age Books are expecting stock soon.

Ed.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Effective April 28th, citizens of Rumania had to register typewriters they own with the police. This is to prevent possession or use of typewriters by those who "pose a danger to public order or state security." In Poland, martial law required that sales of typing paper be banned. Again we are made aware of the freedoms we enjoy in so called Western democracies and how difficult it would be for sf fandoms to exist in the above named countries. Fandom does exist in Poland and we are sure that everybody reading this will wish the fans there the best and hope that fandom there can survive and grow.

The Italian Section of the World SF Association has published the first edition of a reference booklet, REPORTARY OF THE ITALIAN PROFESSIONALS IN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY WRITING. The listings cover the year 1981, with bibliographies and other information.

There are now only two publishers of SF in Italy, Fanucci in Rome and Editrice Nord in Milan, and no regular magazines. The Italian edition of ISAAC ASIMOV'S MAGAZINE ceased publication a few months back and the publisher SIAD Edizioni in Milan, continues to publish only translations of Asimov's and Greenberg's SF GREATEST STORIES. The only sf activity now is Urania's twice yearly collection of three novels by one author. Urania have been publishing sf for 31 years.

The Fifth Annual Yugoslavian SF Convention was held in the club rooms of the Narodni University in Belgrade on February 22-27. It was the largest so far held with 2000 people attending. The programme included films, lectures, an art exhibition and a business meeting. There are a number of sf clubs in Yugoslavia and this is the first time

they have co-operated to put on a convention. There is still no national organisation however and they have not reached the stage of presenting awards. The next two conventions will be held in September '83 and February '84. It is obvious that sf is well established in Yugoslavia. In fact, Yugoslavian fans are bidding for the World SF convention in 1988 and Eurocon in 1986.

The French sf magazine Orbites is having distribution problems after some difficulties with payments to authors. The editor, Daniel Riche, is negotiating for a new publisher.

According to an article in the May issue of LOCUS by Ye Longlie, science fiction is quite popular in China. Cover illustrations of six magazines which feature sf and non-fiction science articles are shown, with another six magazines mentioned. This upsurge in the writing and publishing of sf in China has developed since the change of government in 1976. The emphasis has changed from sf being for children, with magazines appearing one after the other. Chinese sf writers and fans have attended such gatherings as the World SF annual meetings and they have greeted visitors to their shore such as Robert Heinlein. We are glad to see this contact between sf devotees from diverse parts of the planet and hope there is more of it. In particular we hope to see fans from many parts of the world including the Asian countries, attending the World Convention that we expect to hold in Melbourne in 1985.



NEW BRITISH MAGAZINE as reported in Ansible.

REALITY is a planned magazine of TF or 'technology fiction' which is like SF only subtly different, masterminded by Maurice Goldsmith (Science Policy Foundation), Charles Barren (SF Foundation Acting Administrator), George Hay and just possibly Dave Langford. The editor, though there seems some doubt about the matter, which seems to be a normal state of affairs in sf circles in Britain, is the later, Mr Langford. The format has been mentioned as A3 newspaper style. Submissions to Charles Barren, c/o SF Foundation, NE London Poly, Longbridge Rd., Dagenham, RM8 2AS.

FANTASY NEWSLETTER, the US news and review magazine published by Florida Atlantic University and edited by Robert A. Collins, was delayed recently due to a cut in University funds. Issue number 60 was a combined June/July issue, which is probably explained by the fact that it is now a one man effort. Not only that caused the delay, but the copy got lost on the way to the printer and turned up a week later. We small magazines all have our problems.

Authors and readers please note: THE BEST OF OMNI volumes not only include reprints from the magazine, but almost

as many original stories. Don Myrus is the editor, and his department is completely separate from OMNI fiction editor's Helen Datlow, but at the same address. If you wish to submit stories write to Don Myrus at Omni Publications International, 909 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. And readers, you may have been missing something.

## SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The Third Annual Short Story Contest sponsored by Twilight Zone magazine is now open for entries. First prize is \$500, second \$300 and third \$200. It is open to writers who have not had a story published for payment so far. Submissions should consist of one story per person, two thousand words or less, typewritten, with the author's name address, and phone number on the first page. An addressed envelope with reply coupons from Australian or New Zealand entries, must be enclosed. Deadline September 1st. Address: Story Contest, TZ Publications, Inc., 800 Second Ave., New York, NY 10017, USA.

## Australian S.F. & FANTASY Fan Artwork

by Michael McGann & Sakura Allison  
SPACE ART ON YOU!  
T-SHIRTS \$8.00 printed black on white, blue, gold or red.  
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483 BEAUCHAMP RD.  
Cheque to Sakura Allison MAROUBRA, N.S.W. 2035

## All Our Yesterdays

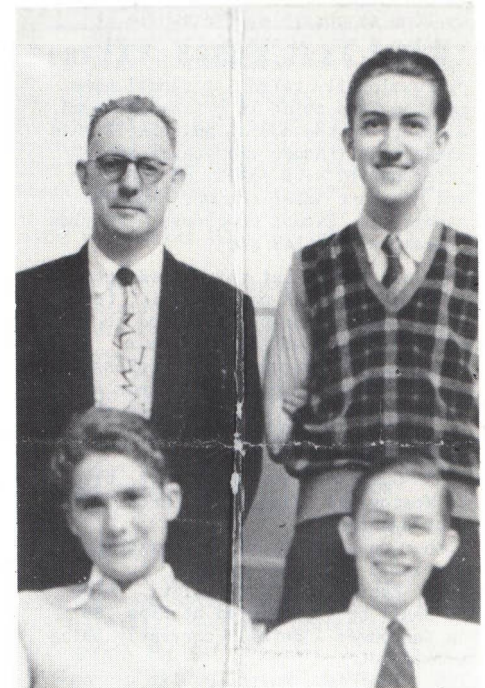


Photo by Lee Harding

A very early meeting of the Melbourne SF Club, with the late Bob McCubbin (School teacher), Merv Binns (Bookseller), Race Mathews (Then student teacher, now M.P. and Government Minister), and Dr Dick (Ditmar) Jensen (Head of the Department of Meteorology, Melbourne University.)



# FAN NEWS AND NOTICES

RON SMITH, one time publisher, editor and now bookseller, is one of the founders of a male liberation movement in Melbourne. He was interviewed regarding his and the movements aims in the Melbourne *SUN* newspaper on Tuesday July 12th. Ron, who moved here from the U.S. about 25 years ago, was the editor of the fan magazine *INSIDE*, which won the Hugo for Best Fanzine in 1956. He now owns the bookshop "Open Leaves", at 71 Cardigan Street, Carlton, Victoria, which specialises in books on human relations.

PAUL J. STEVENS, (alias Anti-fan), book-seller, film star, 1978 Duff Winner and something of an institution in Melbourne and Australian fandom, and KIT DRIVER, have announced their engagement.

## ANNIVERSARIES

*LOCUS* magazine, our major news source along with *SF Chronicle*, has now been published for fifteen years. They have done a great job over the years and in particular have helped to create the world wide sf fan fraternity that now exists. Congratulations Charles Brown & Co.

Space Age Books was 12 years old in July. They have survived against all odds, but admit that bookselling is not the way to get rich. They wish to thank sf fandom for its support over the years and they hope that they can continue to help and support fandom in its activities in the future.



NORWESCON 6 was held March 17-20 in Seattle, with approximately 1600 attendees. Jack Williamson was GoH, with Richard Powers as Artist GoH and Art Widner as Fan GoH. Art attended Syncon '83 in Sydney held in June. Other notables at NorWescon included Algis Budrys, Charles N. Brown, Patricia McKillip, David Hartwell, Joanna Russ, Lou Aronica and others. The programming was good, but one complaint was that it attracted too many media fans. ( *Ho hum! When are these people going to realise that the media is a major part of the sf scene now, whether they like it or not.* Ed.)

Other recent major conventions in the USA included LUNACON '83, with GoH Anne McCaffrey, which was marred by the worst weather in 20 years, with storms and floods delaying people getting to the con. It was held in Hasbuck Heights, which we gather is in New

The FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FANTASTIC, was held March 24-27, 1983, in Boca Raton, Florida, with Harlan Ellison as GoH. It was as usual the most popular academic conference on sf, with more than 500 people attending. Due to bad organisation of registration, many people did not pay a membership and the conference, which was underwritten by the late Thomas Burnett Swann's family, lost money. Most of the conference went very well, but

Ellison had not completed work on his planned lecture, called "The Curse of the Chambered Nautilus" and gave one of his usual free-form performances instead. "It went on much too long and probably shocked some of the more sedate academics", reported *Locus*.

CONTACT, science fiction and anthropology conference was held April 8-10 in Santa Cruz. The Mayor of Santa Cruz when opening the conference expressed the hope that conference would learn "how to deal with alien cultures in" his city. The programme appears to have been very innovative in some ways and so successful, that it will probably become a regular event. C.J. Cherryh, Paul Preuss and Jerry Pournelle were amongst the attendees and speakers.

ARCHON 7 was due to be held in St Louis MO, USA, from July 8-10, but the Mayor of St Louis "strongarmed" the hotel into holding the Miss Universe Pageant the second weekend in July. Archon switched to July 22-24 at the Chase Park Plaza.

EUROCON '84 will be held in conjunction with SEACON '84 to be held in Brighton, England, we presume over Easter. A bid from Blackpool for 1984 CON was unsuccessful. The Guest of Honour will be Isaac Asimov, health permitting, with Chris Priest as British GoH. Many other distinguished guests are expected to attend.

CONSTELLATION UPDATE: Membership of the 1983 World SF Convention stands at 5000. The membership fee, currently \$40, will most certainly be increased at the door. Hugo Ballots and site selection ballots should by now have been returned to the committee. The only way that Melbourne, Australia can now lose the ballot for the 1985 World con is for a massive number of write in votes to be recorded, as no other nomination was made. Consequently we expect to announce in the next issue, that the bid has been won for Melbourne's second World con, and who the GoH will be and other details.

It was reported that GoH John Brunner would not be able to sign books at Constellation, due to an injured wrist. However he will be doing limited book signing at the convention.

L.A.CON II, the 1984 World SF Convention, has announced that including the main hotel, The Anaheim Hilton with 1300 rooms, it has booked rooms for a total of 2,900 with seven hotels. A free b/s shuttle service will run between the hotels, Disneyland and the Anaheim Convention Center, and it is absolutely necessary, as the distances are enormous.

CONSTELLATION, by the way, is being held in Baltimore at the BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTRE, September 1 - 5. John Brunner, is GoH, David Kyle is Fan GoH and Jack Chalker is Toastmaster. A good contingent of Australian fans is expected to attend. The L.A.CON, the 1984 and 42nd World Convention, is being held August 30 - September 3. Gordon R. Dickson is the GoH. The Australian agent has still not told us who he is. More details next issue. We will also have comprehensive details on the 1985 WORLD SF CONVENTION, which we expect to be held here in Melbourne again, ten years after

the last Australian World Con here in Melbourne in 1975, AUSSIECON, in the next issue. Meanwhile you can obtain more details from The Melbourne in '85 Bidding Committee, C.P.O. Box 22530 Melbourne 3000, Victoria, Australia. UK Agent: Joseph Nicholas, 22 Denbigh St., Pimlico, London SW1V 2ER. The USA Agents: Joyce Scrivner, 2732 14th Ave Sth Lower, Minneapolis MN 55404, and Jan Howard Finder, P.O. Box 428, Latham, NY 12110 USA.

CONQUEST '83 is the next SF Convention to be held in Australia. It will be held at The BRISBANE PARK ROYAL Hotel, on September 24th and 25th 1983. Membership is now \$25 full and \$15 for students and pensioners. Membership at the con will be \$15 and \$10 per day. For more details write to G.P.O. Box 1376, Brisbane, Queensland, 4001 or ring 369 2851 or 394 3474. A fund raising event is being held August 24th at the Canberra Hotel, 2nd Floor, Ann Street, Brisbane, from 11.30 AM to 4.00 PM. Fans interested are requested to bring along books to sell in the auction.

EUREKACON, the 23rd National Australian SF Convention, is being held at the Melbourne Town House over Easter next year. Rumour has it that they just beat the organisers of a comic-come-war-games convention to it, who apparently took it for granted the hotel was theirs for that weekend. More details on the con can be had from P.O. Box 175, South Melbourne. 3205, Victoria.

SWANCON 9 is being held in Perth, 27th to 30th of January 1984, at the WESTOS MOTOR INN. Harry Harrison will be the GoH. More details from P.O. Box 318, Nedlands 6009, W.A.

KINKON Featuring Sight and Sound in Science Fiction, will be held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Melbourne, June 9 - 11 1984. For details write to P.O. Box 1581P, Melbourne.. 3001, Victoria.

The 1985 NATIONAL AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION will be held in Adelaide. More details on all these Australian cons next issue, or see the last issue of *ASFN*.

EDITORIAL LAST WORDS: We could only mention one or two fanzines in the space left, so we will leave them till next issue, when my assistant Jane Tissel, who has been moving house and other things recently, will bring you a run down on mainly media fanzines.

My thanks this issue to Space Age's Jullianne Wylie for typing up most of the book reviews and letters and Justin Ackroyd for finding most of the typos and bad grammar. Thanks also to all our contributors and reviewers and to our sources of information, *LOCUS*, *ANSTIBLE* and *SF-CHRONICLE*.

We have been asked to include circulars in the NEWS when they are being mailed, but we regret we cannot do so. It is for a start probably against Australia Post regulations regarding registered publications and as we seem to be getting to 24 pages each issue now, it is just impossible to get anything else in the maximum size regulation envelope we are using. Sorry we cannot oblige, but we think that our advertising rates are pretty reasonable at any rate, so.... **23**





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### SATURDAY AUGUST 20TH.

6.15 STORY OF THE SERIALS.  
6.35 FUGITIVE (TWILIGHT ZONE).  
7.00 THE CHAMELEON.(OUTERLIMITS)  
7.55 NOSFERATU-SILENTS PLEASE.  
8.20 FRANKENSTIEN CAT.  
8.27 INTERMISSION.  
8.37 RAY HARRYHAUSEN TRAILERS.  
8.50 INVADERS. ( TWILIGHT ZONE).  
9.15 Z.Z.Z. (OUTERLIMITS).  
10.10 INTERMISSION.  
10.15 HE'S ALIVE.  
(1 HOUR TWILIGHT ZONE)

11.10 FINISH.

DATE: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD  
(STAR TREK DAY #7)

6.15 CAPTAIN MARVEL - 8.30 WHOM GODS DESTROY  
EPISODE 9 9.25 SPOCK'S BRAIN  
6.30 SHORE LEAVE 10.20 INTERMISSION  
7.25 FOR THE WORLD IS HOLLOW 10.25 THE ALTERNATE FACTOR  
8.20 INTERMISSION 11.15 FINISH

### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH.

6.15 THE MAKING OF DOC SAVAGE.  
6.25 METROPOLIS(BEAUT PRINT  
WITH ORGAN MUSIC)  
8.00 WITCHES CAT.  
8.07 INTERMISSION.  
8.20 ELEVATOR.(TWILIGHT ZONE)  
8.45 AFTER HOURS (TWILIGHT ZONE)  
9.20 BELLERO SHEILD.  
(OUTERLIMITS)  
10.15 INTERMISSION  
10.20. MIRROR IMAGE  
(TWILIGHT ZONE)  
10.45 DUST. (TWILIGHT ZONE)  
11.10 FINISH.

### DATE: SATURDAY AUGUST 13TH

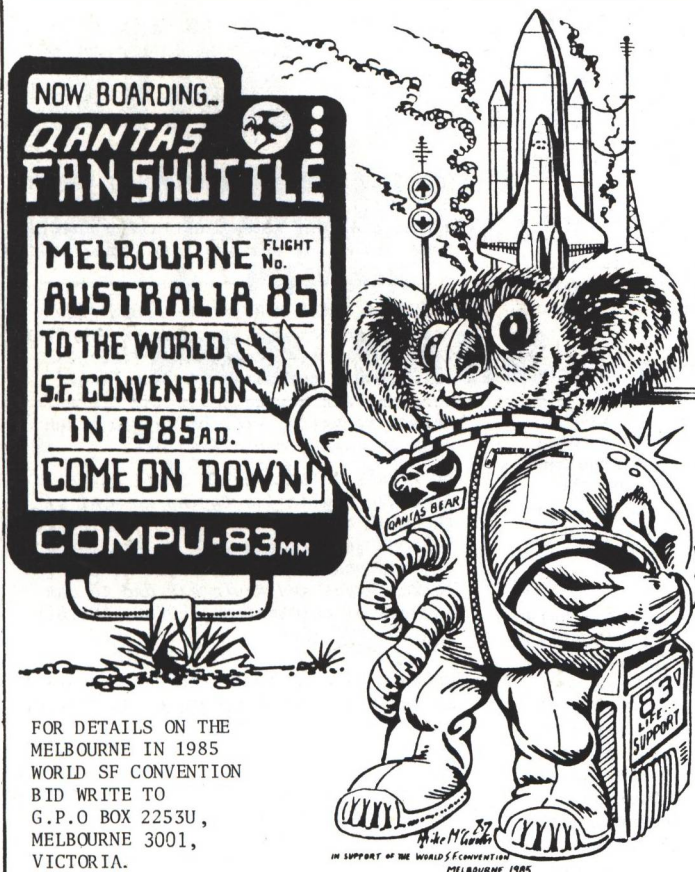
12.30 BUCK ROGERS -EPISODE 8  
12.45 OVERLORDS OF U.F.O  
(ROD SERLING)  
2.15 COUNTER CLOCKWISE INCIDENT  
(Animated Star Trek)  
2.40 INTERMISSION  
2.50 ZANTI MISFITS (OUTER LIMITS)  
3.40 A THING ABOUT MACHINES  
(TWILIGHT ZONE)  
4.05 THE MAKING OF DOC SAVAGE  
4.15 INTERMISSION  
4.20 STAR TREK BLOOPERS  
4.35 STORY OF THE SERIALS  
5.00 Break for Dinner at HYDE  
PARK PLAZA MOTEL (Menu veg.  
or non-veg.)  
7.30 A KIND OF STOPWATCH  
(TWILIGHT ZONE)  
7.55 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD  
STILL  
9.30 INTERMISSION  
9.40 THINGS TO COME (1934)  
William Cameron Menzies  
11.10 FINISH

### DATE: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10th (STAR TREK DAY # 6)

12.30 BUCK ROGERS -EPISODE  
12.45 THE SQUIRE OF GOTHOS  
1.40 THE NAKED TIME  
2.35 INTERMISSION  
2.45 WHERE NO MAN HAS GONE  
BEFORE  
3.25 SHORE LEAVE  
4.15 INTERMISSION  
4.20 THE CORBOMITE MANOEUVRE  
5.10 FINISH

### DATE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 8TH (STAR TREK DAY #7)

12.30 BUCK ROGERS - EPISODE 10  
12.45 CITY ON THE EDGE OF  
FOREVER  
1.40 WOLF IN THE FOLD  
2.35 INTERMISSION  
2.45 CHARLIE X  
3.25 ERRAND OF MERCY  
4.15 INTERMISSION  
4.20 THE DAY OF THE DOVE  
5.10 FINISH



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