

I MUST BE TALKING TO MYSELF

A Special Kind of Communication

()

Published by John Bangsund PO Box 357 Kingston ACT 2604  
for the Seventh Anniversary Mailing of ANZAPA

REPORT ON ANZAPOLL 1975

I have no pleasure in reporting that one member voted in the poll.  
I allocated points as follows:

Best Publisher	-	-
Best Mailing Comments	-	-
Best Art, Fiction or Verse	-	-
Best Overall Contribution to the APA	Eric Lindsay	1
TOTAL:	Eric Lindsay	1

Congratulations, Eric, on your election to the office of President  
of the Australian and New Zealand Amateur Publishing Association!

RETIRING PRESIDENTIAL COMMENTS

ANZAPA has come a long way since October 1968, and lately it has  
been all downhill. The Magic Pudding Club has proved conclusively  
that an apa cannot be run by a slanshack. I get the impression,  
up here in the howling wastelands of the Dead Heart, that Ken, Don  
and Derrick have done a lot for Melbourne fandom, for the Worldcon,  
for the Workshop and so on. Good chaps, all of 'em. But they  
can't run ANZAPA!

I wish the Constitution allowed a vote of no confidence in the OE  
and a snap election for the job. Or that it gave the President  
power to dismiss the OE on the application of 75% of the members,  
or something like that. (In the latter case I would write to Paul  
Anderson immediately and say 'Okay, mate, you're it until next May.')

I hear rumours that the membership fee has gone up - just rumours,  
nothing definite. The Official Organ for ANZAPA 45 reports that the  
financial position is 'precarious' - not how much money the apa has,  
not the names of members who owe dues, just 'precarious'.

I hear rumours that Susan Wood and Don Fitch have joined ANZAPA.  
I wonder why (if it's true). Maybe they haven't seen recent mailings.

I note that seven of our fourteen members, including one-third of our  
corporate OE, are due to lose their membership if they have nothing  
in the October mailing. Of the other seven, at least two have not  
paid their dues for 1975-76, and therefore should have been thrown  
out last mailing.

Anyway, these little nitpicking remarks aside, I look forward to  
the next few mailings with interest. I'll need five pages in next  
February's mailing to retain my membership, and if I think it's  
worth the trouble they'll be there. Right now I think I'll have a  
few months rest.

Actually I started this stencil with the intention of resigning from  
ANZAPA. Then I remembered that all I have to do to remain a member  
is pay my dues and put in six pages every six months - and that allows  
me to sit back comfortably and let you lot entertain me. For a change.

30 September: I'm glad I was only talking to myself. In today's mail is some stuff from Beau Nashby promising a 'revitalized ANZAPA' and advising all sorts of things: like who owes money, who is rumoured to be joining, how four members voted to increase the fee to \$7, stuff like that. I am listed among those rumoured to be joining, after 'Wyart Earp'. Still no financial statement, but yer can't have everything can yer.

Thanks, Do nAshby. It's nice to know that there's still someone out there, and I herewith bydraw - try that again - hereby withdraw my threat to sit back and let you entertain me.

\* \* \* \*

A genuine headline, quoted by my favourite funnay-paper, 'The Journalist':

AMERICAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN SCOTLAND

\* \* \* \*

Thought you'd like that, yez sassenachs. You didn't? Och, the puir wee mon!

Anyway, as I was saying, today I went to my very first top-level interdepartmental conference, and the chairman asked me to quote the words people might object to in the book I'm supposed to be editing. I took a deep breath, closed my eyes (there were Ladies in the room - and two Class 10s!) and said: 'Fuck. Cunt. Boobs. Retrodialogy.' There was dead silence. Then someone said 'What was that last one?' 'Retrodialogy' I said. 'What does it mean?' 'I don't know' I said. Even now I shudder to think of it.

\* \* \* \*

Have a lovely seventh anzapaversary, chaps. See yez in December.

*J.B.*