

way to reach the size of audience need to maintain the publication. When Chunder! was started it had this service function: Leigh Edmonds' FANZINE LETTER had just vanished over the horizon, and there weren't really too many fanzines around (Chunder! is just over a year old (in the present incarnation, of course), as I have just realised, and the seventeenth issue is just about complete today), much less ones which could distribute information. Soon after ASPN got started, but its emphasis is very different from that in Chunder!, which has been much more, as was intended, a place where what is going on in Australian fandom is described and debated. This structure, though intended, was and is not my whole intention and recently Chunder! had begun to incorporate other elements which I think are desirable. This has been helped a lot by the appearance of good newszines from Perth and Sydney which to some extent reduce my urge to report what is going on in those places.

But not entirely. I really would like to carry more reports of what fans all over Australia are doing, but people simply don't write up what happens. Some 'happenings' are easy to report - conventions, which I have always given a fair amount of attention to, writing 'em myself when necessary, but also printing conreports by George Turner, Roy Ferguson, Peter Toluzzi, Jack Herman, Leigh Edmonds, Mike C'Brien, Chas Jensen and Elizabeth Darling, and reports from Adrienne Losin and Catherine Circosta will, I expect, appear in the next issue (I think I only forgot Paul Stevens in that list, but I'm always uncertain as to whether I should mention his name in APPLESAUCE). And reporting on apas isn't too tough (but I've still fallen back on Marc in this area - and he does it so well), but fanzine reviews I haven't yet been able to cope with satisfactorily. In the May Chunder! I use the approach which I believe is appropriate, but it is extremely wordy, and it means that I fall far behind, and will probably miss out on some of the fanzines which I really should describe at length.

But what is missing is the report based upon ephemeral but either important or interesting events. These can only appear when someone at the site thinks of reporting it in a fanzine (and I would like to think that Chunder! has been sufficiently eclectic in the past for its role in this kind of reporting to be recognized). What I would like to print in Chunder!, of course, is not a flat description of occurring events, but a report which is in itself attractive to read.

Well, one way or another, poor old Chunder! has grown. The reader sees the increase in the number of pages - 24 in the April issue, and down to 20 in May because I postponed a couple of pieces and didn't deal with the fanzines adequately - but not the increase in circulation. This year I have run out of each edition before I wanted to (i.e., I haven't been able to circulate as many on spec as I would like), and I shall need to run off something like 175 of the next (May). About 120 of these go to Australians, with the overseas readers accounting for most of the circulation increase this year. When Chunder! started it was something like 6 pages a month distributed to 60 readers, and a little arithmetic will show you why I don't have quite as much time for APPLES as I would like.

My present job doesn't help - especially in the last couple of weeks which have meant working Saturdays and travelling to Geelong and Bendigo. at night. Not fun.

Nevertheless, there is one thing I would like you to know:

G*L*Y*E*R FOR DUFF