

NEWSLETTER

The monthly news bulletin of the
Irish Science-Fiction Association
AUGUST 1976

ISSA NO. 2

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ASSOCIATION NEWS from David Norman

Well, its Newsletter time again! The last members' meeting - as many of you will remember - was in La Dolce Vita on Sunday afternoon, July 19th. For those of you who were not able to get along to Mary Street, it proved to be a pleasant, informal get-together and seems (since we haven't heard to the contrary) to have been enjoyed by all. For the record, the previous meeting was held in Wynn's Hotel, Abbey Street, and was 'highlighted' by an interesting speech from I.S.F.A. member David Lass, on Science Fiction films and their history. It is the intention that every issue of the forthcoming Journal will have transcribed accounts of each of the Association's Formal Meetings and, at the moment, David's informative talk is being prepared for publication. The first issue of the Journal - to be published each quarter, under the title of 'STARGATE' - is nearing completion and should be ready to make its debut at our September meeting. However, more news of that event in our next Newsletter. (For those who are interested, the title is the brainchild - not "Starchild", we hasten to add - of Committee member Pearse Mooney.)

At present, the Committee are still trying to find the ideal venue for our Informal get-togethers, the next of which, will be on Sunday July 29th, from 7.00pm to 10.00pm. The location, this time, will be + the upstairs lounge of The Sportsman's Inn, Deerpark Rd. Mt. Merrion + Buses 64 and 64A to door. This private room has full bar facilities. + The meeting in September should prove interesting since, one of the delegates attending the Science Fiction Writers' Convention has kindly offered to address us. Full details of this in the September Newsletter.

August 6th was the first Friday of the month and, as usual, some of our fellow members turned up at patron Anne McCaffrey's residence for the monthly Science Fiction orientated 'talk-in'. If you would like to experience the McCaffrey hospitality and have mislaid the address, please contact our Secretary for details.

At our next meeting, the Committee hope to take the opportunity to chat to all the members who drop in. We would like to hear your opinions of the I.S.F.A. to date. The Committee have been very busy trying to draw up an interesting calendar of events for the coming year and we would like to hear your views on possible activities such as, a Christmas dinner-dance and a yearly convention. If you can't get along on the 29th, please drop a line to our Secretary who will be pleased to hear from you. Without member response, we will find it very difficult to organise events or activities which will be of interest to you, the member.

The first issue of our Journal 'STARGATE' is on its way to completion but we stress the point that we will require material for Issue No 2 which should be ready at Christmas. We hope to include a supplement,

exclusively for I.S.F.A. members, giving full details of the Writers' Convention being organised at the moment by patron Harry Harrison. We look forward to receiving short stories, articles, illustrations and letters of comment for future Journals. Would you like to submit something for publication consideration? If so, let us hear from you.

To date, we have not been able to find a suitable premises for our library but, if any of you have any books or magazines which you wish to swop or sell, why not bring some (not all) along on the 29th.

BOOK NEWS from Richard Gallagher

A quiet whisper in the ear of all Philip Jose Farmer fans.....the third Riverworld book, THE MAGIC LABYRINTH (a quote from Burton's KASIDAH) is in the pipeline. Word is that the author is now working on the second draft - expected length, 20,000 words, or more. How long before the finished work is actually published remains to be seen.....(Don't hold your breath.)++++

Corgi titles for August are Jack London's THE STAR ROVER ++ NEW WRITINGS IN SF 26 Ed. by Ken Bulmer++NEW WORLDS 10 Ed. by Hilary Bailey++How many of you read LOGAN'S RUN by William F. Nolan and George Clayton Johnson? Published last month by Corgi, it appears to be on their best seller list - I wonder why!?!++++

Futura will be publishing THE BEST OF JACK VANCE, THE BEST OF POUL ANDERSON and THE BEST OF ROBERT SILVERBERG++++

Other titles for August include OVER THE EDGE Ed. by Derleth, VULCAN'S HAMMER by Philip K. Dick and an Arthur C. Clarke reprint 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY - all from Arrow Books++++

Available from Panther are FAHRENHEIT 451 by Ray Bradbury, Asimov's END OF ETERNITY and FOUNDATION plus, Robert Heinlein's DOUBLE STAR Reprints all++++

Mayflower join in the reprint spree with Moorcock's STORMRINGER and PHOENIX IN OBSIDIAN - Some comfort for those who enjoy this author's work, is the news of two new novels SAILOR ON THE SEA OF FATE (A new Elric novel) while the second work is jointly written (co-author Michael Butterworth), TIME OF THE WARLORDS. The blurb reads 'London after disintegration. The last great rock festival'.....You have been warned!++++

Back to reprints for Van Vogt's BATTLE OF FOREVER (NEL publish) while Sphere, not to be outdone in the reprint stakes, rehash two Van Vogt titles THE WORLD OF NULL-A and THE PAWNS OF NULL-A++++

Don't despair, there are new titles around; it's just a question of looking.....To assist you on your weary way I shall list a couple of new titles from British publishers: TWILIGHT OF ERIAREUS by Richard Cowper and WAY TO THE DAWN WORLD by Bill Starr. Both are from Futura/Ballantine++NEL have MONUMENT by Lloyd Biggle++++

August, it seems, is not the best month for SF. So, why not pay a visit to your local second-hand bookseller and see if there are any bargains just waiting to be picked up. (It's amazing how many good SF novels, long since out of print, can be obtained with a little patience sorting through second-hand books)++++

To end on a more cheerful note: Bantam Books (USA) have two books scheduled for Autumn THE WINDS TWELVE QUARTERS by Ursula Le Guin and THE DAY THE GODS DIED by Walter Ernsting with an introduction by Erich Von Daniken ++ Bantam promise to have many more significant titles to follow in the following six months....Watch this space++++

NOTE: Apologies to David Norman for omitting to credit him for the fine illustration printed in the last Newsletter.

Please address all queries regarding the I.S.F.A. to the Secretary David Norman, 217 Ballyroan Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16. (SAE please)

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