

THYME SEVEN

THYME, the newszine where one editor likes to get the other editor's postcode wrong, is edited and published by Irwin Hirsh, 279 Domain Rd, South Yarra, Vic 3141 (phone: (03) 26-1966), and Andrew Brown, 5 York St, Prahran, Vic 3141 (ph: (03) 51-7702), Australia. Available for Trade (1 copy each preferred), news or subscription: 6 for \$2 (within Aust. or overseas surface) or 3 for \$2 (overseas airmail). British agent: Joseph Nicholas, Room 9, 94 St. George's Square, Piccadilly, London SW1Y 3QY, UK. Nth American agents: Teresa and Patrick Nielsen Hayden, 4712 Fremont Ave N, Seattle, WA 98103, USA. An 'X' after your name indicates that this is your last issue unless you Do Something. Registered by Australia Post - publication no. VBE2625. 13 November 1981

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BRITIAN IN 84: "It's all Off." writes Joseph Nicholas. "When I quizzed him about it recently, Kevin Smith, one of the bidding committee, told me that in making the bid for 1984 they knew full well that they couldn't hope to build the support necessary to win. What they did hope to do, however, was announce the presence of a British bid and then, having lost, make a bid for the previously-discussed date of 1987 in the usual way. I put it to him that this was not a terribly brilliant idea - if you're aiming for 1987 anyway, then why no bid for it from the start rather than fuck around with all sorts of complicated pre-bid manoeuvrings. Whether these arguments had any effect or not I don't know - but at today's Novacon 11 committee meeting I learned that the bidding committee, who had taken a slot on the programme to publicise the thing, had phoned in a last-minute correction to their entry in the Programme Book, altering the date from 1984 to 1987.

As I say, I don't yet know the reasons fro the change of plan, but will endeavour to find out, and pass them on to you as soon as I can."

SYDNEY SCENE: Jane Taubman writes: "Sydney is beginning to feel like an outlying suburb of Perth with the amount of WA fans ... living or visiting here! There's Judith Hanna, who tends to commute between Sydney and WA on a year in, year out basis; and Rob McGough, whom she bought over to the Big Smoke several years ago, and who has apparently decided that This Is The Life. Sally Beasley tends to pop up at odd intervals to and from places (most recently, Denvention), and Bob Ogden came over for some reason which I never discovered but we took him along to the Kraftwork concert and nearly straightened his hair with delight! Barbara de la Hunty has been living in Sydney, on an extended visit with view to further extension. Damien Brennan (of the late, and mostly un-lamented, Bionic Rabbit) has actually moved to Sydney, as has Mark Hennessy, but he did it via a sneaky side-step to Adelaide, to lull us into a false sense of ~~relief~~ security!

Also, the WA response to Sydney conventions is really pleasing, as we average 5 or 6 attendees from that far-flung land at all major cons. It is unfortunate that we can't return the compliment due to ~~the fact that they have no access to~~ the higher cost of living in Sydney which tends to prevent us from

continent-hopping, but should they ever win the NatCon again (as I'm sure they will), they are assured of another huge Sydney contingent to equal that of Swancon 5.

I mean, just look how many of us went interstate for Circulation!

ATSEFA Jack R Herman, acting chairman of the Australian Tertiary SF Association, has released a bulletin in order to gauge the level of interest in the Association and towards the Unicons. During the most recent Unicon, Tolkon, there were no bids for the 1982 Unicon, and as of early October 81 there were only two paid up members of the association. Jack called for bids for Unicon with the aim of running a mail ballot. Should Jack have recieved no bids by November 1st he will calling an Extraordinary Meeting of ATSEFA at Tschaicon. You can write to Jack at Box 272, Wentworth Building, University of Sydney, NSW 2006.

BIRTH: Sarah Eleanor (or Eleanor - her parents haven't decided) Noble, daughter of Jon Noble and Caroline Hale, born 16.10.1981.

CIRCULATION membership was 86, including 10 who paid at door prices. A profit of about \$230 was made, of which \$22 was 'tithed' to Melbourne in 85. The committee are looking to running another con, maybe next year.

The bad news is that about \$150 was stolen (that the committee know of) - \$80 from the ConCom cash box, the rest from two of the attendees. Jean Weber admits that their security was a bit lax with regard to the cash box, but more importantly hopes it isn't a precedent. We'd hate to see people getting paranoid about thefts at cons.

FANARCHY IS THE WAY While on a fact-finding diplomatic mission to the USA, Nigel D. Adams, Secretary of the United Fanarchists' Party, has managed to spare some time to remain up-to-date with the situation back home. Responding to an item in the last issue of Thyme Nigel has scrawled the following message on Birmingham Hilton stationery:

"It is my unfortunate duty to have to inform you of certain deceptions being pressed upon Australian Fandom, by person or persons unknown hiding under the banner of the Fanarchists' movement. While the causes being espoused by this so-called Fanarchist Party of Australia are, no doubt, worthwhil, they are totally at odds with the true aims and ideals of fanarchism.

The very idea that fanarchists should have anything to do with books is ludicrous, and beneath the contempt of our organisation. However, it is feared that some impressionable neo-fen may be influenced by this blatant mis-represtation, thus it would be appreciated if at least portions of this letter were to be reproduced in your worthy publication.

The true purpose of fanarchism is nothing less than the destruction of that great bane of publishing fandom, The Post Offices: A True Fanarchist will not rest until every trace of this foul tyranny is wiped from the face of the Earth.

It is clear that this Johnnie-come-lately FPA is a splinter group, inspired, and probably even financed by the Post Office. Its aims are clearly to draw fanarchist energies from what must be their primary task, the elimination of the Post Office. The United Fanarchists' Party calls upon all true fanarchists to reject this false path.

THE U.F.P. -
FOR A FREE POSTAL SYSTEM."

Those wishing to contact Nigel can, err, write to The United Fanarchists' Party, c/- 1/2 Water St, Kensington Park, SA 5068.

THE FAAns With this issue comes a ballot form for the 1981 Fanzine Activity Achievement Awards Poll. Please vote if you saw much of the fanzine activity of 1980. Note the voting deadline.

TAFF CANDIDATES are Rog Peyton and Kevin Smith. Next issue we hope to carry a ballot form, so you can all participate in this worthy organisation. It would also be nice if we can carry a DUFT ballot form.

GANDALF 'GRAND MASTER OF FANTASY': In Ansible Dave Langford notes: "The Gandalf had been excluded from the Hugo Ballot, but at the awards ceremony someone called Killus leapt onto the stage and invited the audience to award the thing to GoH C.L. Moore by democratically clapping their hands, They did. Gosh wow."

MUSICAL FANS The 7th issue of Fast Forward cassette magazine mentions having recieved "a cassette of selected home grown "electronic" and "non classical instruments" music from Messrs Mapson and Warner." Thought you'd just like to know.

THE INFLUENCE OF SCIENCE FICTION. As a result of the forward thinking aspects of our genre there will be two Australia Days in 1982. SmoffCon is listed as being held on Australia Day weekend, 23rd-25th Jan. 1982 and SwanCon 7 is listed as being held on Australia Day weekend, 30th Jan - 1st Feb, 1982. If you are like me you probably didn't notice the different dates after having read the words "Australia Day weekend" in the various publicity blurbs, and just thought you were having to choose between the two cons. It is a good thing one of these cons (SmoffCon, according to Roy Ferguson) has made a mistake about the holiday weekend - there is no reason to have two cons over the same weekend.

STRATHVENTION is the new name of the relaxacon that used to be known as Medvention. The reason for the name change is a result of a change of venue. The Hydro Majestic went and upped its prices by something in the region of 80%, and the new venue is the Strathavon Country Club at Wyong. Jane Taubman reports that the Club was once a stately home, and still has the ballroom, dining room, an exquisite wrought-iron spiral staircase, etc (sounds like my place - Irwin). From the outside it is white (of course) with porticos, cupolas, leadlight

windows, etc, with archways covered with flowering vines (Phew, it isn't my place - Irwin). It is on the bank of a river, so boating is available, and also has tennis courts, table tennis, mini-putt-putt golf, pinball and video games, two TV rooms, etc, etc. No doubt one of the TVs will be reserved for whatever cricket is on that weekend. The real hard news about the con is a bit hard to come by, mainly because it was only very recently that a change of venue was found to be necessary. The date of the con is the 5-6th of December, 1981, and a \$10 room deposit is required, but room rates, membership fees, how to get to the venue, etc. are not available. The person to contact is Peter Toluzzi, 12 Georgina St, Newtown, NSW 2042, phone: (02) 519 7588. Both of your editors hope to see you there.

THE SSFF annual Christmas Party will be held at 127 Livingstone Rd, Marrickville, Sydney, on the 11th of December. All past and present Foundation members and other interested parties welcome. If you happen to be in Sydney that weekend, drop in! (Peter Toluzzi)

ON THE PRO BEAT: Judith Hanna reports that her story in the Aussie Women's Weekly was a simple fairy tale travelling under the title "The Most Beautiful Girl In the World". Marc Ortlieb mentions that it was in the 30 Sept. 1981 edition. Judith says "so ask all your aunties and grandmothers, etc, to look out for it."

Neville Angove reports that the December issue of his The Cygnus Chronicler is likely to be the last issue to contain fiction. From 1982 the magazine will be a small review publication, published at more frequent intervals than its current quarterly schedule. Subs. are \$5 a year. Address is The Sperex Press, PO Box 770, Canberra City, ACT 2601.

CHICON IV PR#2 is out and includes the mention that 14 Aussies are members of the 1982 Worldcon. One item of interest is Operation Rathole, in which they mention they have to waste \$2-3,000. They are asking for suggestions on how to waste this money. The best ideas will be put to the membership for voting. Your Rathole idea must meet these criteria: 1) May cost no more than \$3000, 2) It may require no more than two or three full-time workers during the convention, 3) It must be utterly frivolous and totally without redeeming social value, 4) It must be postmarked no later than the 1st of December, 1981. So rush your ideas to Operation Rathole, C/- Chicon IV, PO Box A3120, Chicago, IL 60690, USA.

SWEETMEATS is a collection of Sandra Miesel's fan writing that has been put out by Jerry Kaufman. Includes an introduction by Buck Coulson and art by Stu Shiffman, Alexis Gilliland and Jackie Causgrove, with covers by Jim Odbert and Frank Kelly Freas. It is available for \$1.25, and all profits will go to TAFP. Jerry's address is 4326 Winslow Place North, Seattle, WA 98103, USA. Jerry is also planning a similar volume of the best writing of the late Susan Wood.

COA: Jane Taubman + Gregor Whiley, 2/2a Milner Cres, Wollstonecraft, NSW 2065.

1981 FANZINE ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS POLL (FAAns): BALLOT

For the Best Fanac of 1980

Send this ballot to:

Gary Farber
4227 8th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105
USA

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Ballot must be recieved by Gary no later than December 5, 1981. If you wish a direct report of the results please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your ballot.

CREDENTIALS: To establish your egibility to vote in this poll, please give specific examples of your published 1980 work in fanzines. Unlike previous years, work in one area qualifies you to vote in all areas.

FANZINES

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WRITING

.....

ART

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LoCs (At least two, published in different zines.)

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The FAAn Awards were created in 1974 to encourage excellence within the tradition of fanzine fandom that considers fannish fanzine fans to be those devotees of book and magazine SF who produce or contribute to fanzines dealing with that subject, or with other such fans, often doing so in a way that evinces that indefinable sense of humour and community known as "faanishness". Such fanzines do not pay contributors, and are published for enjoyment to which financial gain is incidental. The FAAns are peer-voted, in support of the belief that the active practitioners of an art or craft are the best judges of excellence in that art or craft, and of the further belief that recognition from fellow practitioners in one's field is the kind most valued by creative people. Therefore, The FAAn Awards are deliberately limited to those fans and zines defined, as above, as "fannish" - not pretending to be a universal award or claiming to replace previously existing awards and polls. It is intended to reflect the views of and be limited in participation to those fannish fans who were active during the year under consideration. If you were such a fan during 1980, we hope you will participate by voting and by helping to distribute the ballots.

In all descriptions of categories and voting credentials on this ballot, the words "fan" and "fannish" in all their forms refer to fannish fans and zines as defined above. The FAAn Award Committee (FAAnAC) has sole authority to rule on nominee and voter eligibility and all other matters pertaining to these awards. The top finishers in each category of the poll will receive an alabaster egg symbolic of "egg o' bu" (ie egoboo) as described in Willis and Shaw's The Enchanted Duplicator.

VOTES: You may make from 1 to 5 ranked votes in each category. Please skip any category in which you, although technically eligible are not knowledgeable. Remember that the awards are for excellence in work done during 1980, and are not for career or cumulative achievement, or work in 1981. Votes for one's own work or one's own fanzine will not be counted; you may vote for people whose work appeared in your zine.

BEST FAN EDITOR

For all-round editing in total fan publishing output; may take into account more than one title.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

BEST FAN WRITER

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

BEST FAN ARTIST (HUMOROUS)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

BEST FAN ARTIST (SERIOUS)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

BEST SINGLE ISSUE

For single all-round fanzine issue, including one-shots.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

BEST LoC WRITER

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

THE FANZINE ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS POLL COMMITTEE

One third of the 9-member committee is elected each year for a 3 year term. The current committee consists of Dave Langford, Jeanne Gomoll, Mike Glycer, Mike Glicksohn, Gary Farber, Bruce Pelz, Peter Roberts and Stu Shiffman. This year, Gary Farber, Stu Shiffman and Peter Roberts will step down in favour of 3 new members (unless re-elected) as chosen by the awards voters. Four new members will be chosen. You may nominate up to 6 of your fellow fanzine fans to places on the committee, in ranked order:

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 5. _____ | 6. _____ |

Are you willing to be on the FAAn Award Poll Committee? Yes () no ().