

## THYME EIGHT

THYME 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 3181 (ph: (03) 51-7702), Australia. Available for trade (1-for-1; 2-for-1 if we both get your fanzine), news or subscription: 6 for \$2.00 (within Australia or overseas surface) or 3 for \$2.00 (overseas airmail). British agent: Joseph Nicholas, Room 9, 94 St. George's Square, Pimlico, London SW1Y 3QY, UK. Nth American agents: Patrick and Teresa 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. VBH2625. Melbourne in 85 30 November 1981

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CONSTELLATION the 41st World Science Fiction Convention, to be held in 1983, in Baltimore has an Australian agent: Carey Handfield. The current rates of membership (till 31 Dec.) are A\$7.00 supporting and A\$14.00 attending. All cheques, money orders, etc to be made out to Carey Handfield, PO Box 91, Carlton, Vic 3053. All those people who wish to vote for Melbourne in 85 should become members of Constellation, as the site-selection for a worldcon is always held at the worldcon two years before. All those people who voted in the 1983 site-selection (and thus voted for Australia in 83) should note that they already have a supporting membership to the 1983 worldcon.

THE ANTIPODEAN ANNOUNCER is the name of the quarterly broadsheet to be put out by the Melbourne in 85 committee. The first issue is due out in mid-December. Australian fans interested in distributing the A.A. through amateur press associations of which they are members should write to David Grigg, Melbourne in 1985 Bidding Committee, GPO Box 2253U, Melbourne, Vic. 3001. This invitation also applies to those who have other types of contacts overseas.

SMOFFCON 1 the 21st Australian National Science Fiction Convention have put out another publicity sheet, which details all the usual stuff about membership rates, venue, dates (\$10 attending; Trinity College, University of Melbourne; 23-25 January, 1982) as well as some of the programme items: Panel on "the worst science fiction of all time", Ramtld Awards for unachievement in Australian science fiction, Anzapa v. The Rest of the World cricket match, back signing and book massage parties, etc. The committee claim that the confusion about when is the real Australia Day holiday is a result of the Australian government gazetting the wrong day - the holiday is usually the Monday on or after the 26th of January (the actual Australia Day) but next year is the Monday before. The Smoffcon address for correspondence is c/- Christine and Derrick Ashby, PO Box 175, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205.

JULIE VAUX will be travelling in Europe and Britian next March/April, and any offers of accomadation or advice would be most welcome. Julie's address is 14 Zara Rd, Willoughby, NSW 2068. Julie

also asks "Is there any support for the notion of having a separate Ditmar for fan cartoonists. I do not particularly wish to compete with Triffids if so fortunate as to be nominated again this year."

**BIRTHDAY** Kim Huett turned 20 on the 6th of November.

**PERTH PASSION** Sally Beasley writes, "WA fandom seems to be reaching a certain age, or else orange blossom is in the air. Maybe it's marriage or Sydney! In any case, there is an engagement party for Katrina Hennessy and Darryl-whose-surname-I-don't-know this weekend. Bevan Casey and Anne McKinnon are getting married early next year, as are Ray Raspa and Alethea Peel. For a previously almost unmarried ...to fandom, this constitutes a definite trend.

There is absolutely no truth to the rumour that WA fandom is planning a secret takeover of Sydney. The sojourn there of the current president of WASFA (Barbara de la Hunty), the move there of the first president of WASFA (Laurie Martin) and the frequent visits of previous presidents of WASFA (Sally Beasley, John McDouall and Bob Ogden) are all purely coincidental. So is the fact that we have inveigled a NSW fan (Richard Faulder) over for the wedding of Roy and Julia."

**TAFF** With this issue comes a TAFF ballot form. Please support this worthy organisation. If you don't know the candidates you can still donate. And if you are reluctant to do this because the costs of changing Australian money into US or UK is too great for such a small amount, why don't you just send Australian money. I mean, I can't see Dave Langford or Stu Shiffman rejecting our money. The number of Aussies supporting this fan fund in the last few years has been rather low.

**DUFF** The ballot form is out and we intend to run it next issue. The candidates are Derrick Ashby, Damian Brennan, Daryl Mannell and Peter Toluzzi. We must admit that we are reluctant to type up the ballot ourselves as there is no way we would fit it all on one quarto sheet. Anyone who has a supply of A4 want to help us out....

**CUFF** the Canadian Unity Fan Fund, is a new fan fund set up to help overcome the "geographical barriers to a unified Canadian fandom by bringing a western fan to the East, and an Eastern fan to a convention in the West the following year". The fund was set up by OSFiC (the Ontario club) and its first recipient was Edmonton fan Michael Hall, and the fund contributed \$50 towards his travel expenses to attend Torque 2 in Toronto. The fanzine New Canadian Fandom 2/3 sets out the funds rules which are not too different from those of TAFF, DUFF, etc, but there is no mention of an address.

**GUFF** fund raising is still continuing, even though there will be no race next year. John Foyster, the Australian administrator, has a number of Chris Priest books, inscribed by the author to GUFF, that will be auctioned off at future cons. Watch for them.

FANZINE REVIEWS (by Irwin Hirsh): The number of fanzines that have been arriving here has been far greater than the number we have reviewed in these pages. This is most annoying because, aside from reviewing some fanzines that have been here for three months or more, both Andrew and I encourage people to become involved (or more involved) in fanzines, especially overseas fanzines. And it is hard to become involved in fanzines if there is no way in finding out what fanzines there are, and how to get them. Hence the reasons for us wanting to do fanzine reviews.

BOONFARK 4, edited by Dan Steffan, 1010 N. Tuckahoe St, Falls Church, VA 22046, USA. Available for "the usual", Old Fanines or \$2.00. 56 pages. This is a good fanzine, especially so if you are interested in fan history - four of the five article contributors write about some aspect of fan history. Regular columnists Ted White and rich brown do it by looking at warhoon 28; I got lost in rich's piece, but Ted White's column is a nice look at the issue and the attitude Walt Willis had towards his fanac using, as examples, some of his first-hand experience with Walt Willis. Greg Benford and Bhub Stewart then provide some memories of the Towner Hall days. Towner Hall was an early '60's fan household in New York, where Void (one of fandoms best remembered fanzines) was produced. Benford's article is from the standpoint of one of the co-editors of Void, who never actually visited Towner Hall. Stewart's is from one who regularly visited the place. The last article is a fine piece of work from Bruce Townley about a journey on a steam locomotive. The letter-column is big, solid and interesting, and the artwork throughout the issue is of a high standard. Rounding out the issue is the start of a comic book adaption of Willis and Bob Shaw's The Enchanted Duplicator, drawn by Dan, which he hopes to continue in the pages of other fanzines.

PRIVATE HEAT 1, edited by Lee Pelton, 4513 34th Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55406, USA. Available for the usual, or \$1.50 or 4/\$4.00. 36 pages. I like this fanzine, though most of its appeal comes more from its promise than from this issue. That doesn't mean that there is anything bad about this issue - there isn't. All the writing is pleasant, but I just think that Carol Kennedy and Bruce Schneier didn't really give themselves the room to adequately cover their topics, while Lee Pelton's look at his early attempts to be a Rock 'n Roll star could have been a bit tighter. There is a lot of art, one or two bad pieces and quite a few excellent pieces. The cover by Victoria Poyser provided me with a nice surprise - I'm not a great fan of her work but this one I liked. This should be a fanzine to look for, especially if Lee can tap the promise of this issue and set it in the right direction. Hopefully, it will be a fanzine that appears regularly.

JUST ME 2, edited by Michael Wallis, PO Box 7276, Station A, Toronto, Ont M5W 1X9, CANADA. Available for the usual? 12 pages. Despite a very attractive piece of mimeo work and packaging there is not much to this personalzine. I get the impression that Michael has printed the notes he took towards the issue when he should have worked them into a bit more shape: there's a couple of false starts, and a number of apologies which should have been edited out and make me wonder if Michael

really knows what he wants to do with his fanzine. It is hoped that he overcomes this soon and before he becomes frustrated into giving up with fanzine publishing - the production values of layout and reproduction suggest someone who wants to try better.

THIS HOUSE 12, edited by John Purcell, 3381 Sumter Ave S, St Louis Park, MN 55426. Available for the usual, expressed interest or \$1., 30 pages. If there is one subject matter that I don't enjoy reading in fanzines it is con reports. So many of them are of the straight reporting type - competent writing to be sure but nothing really memorable. The way most con reports go are such that it would be possible to interchange bits from the different reports of the same con and still come up with a report that reads quite easily. This House has two of these type of reports: one a con report and the other a trip report - both done in a straight reporting style and both quite unmemorable after having read them. And in this fanzine it adds up, as it is not a fanzine that I find at all inspiring, despite its neat, simple appearance.

THE NORSEMAN REVUE 1, edited by Mark Loney, PO Box 83, Kalamunda, WA 6070 6076. Available for the usual (I guess). 20 pages. After having put out The Space Watrel (co-edited with Julian Warner, a fanzine that caused more than enough confusion among its readers) this fanzine is very welcome. In TSW, if there was any 'straight' writing it probably got lost among all the writing designed to be confusing - here the reverse is true. The main article in this issue is Mark's look at his 1981, which I liked - the bits on working in a mine I find fascinating, and the money to be made almost had me trying it out. The rest of the issue is a bit of a come-down after this: a humorous article about the space race which didn't really realise the humorous qualities to be found, a piece of fan fiction, etc.

FORERUNNER V4 N8, edited for the SSFF by Shayne McCormack, PO Box A491, Sydney South, NSW 2000. Available for the usual or 12/\$3.00. 12 pages. No need to criticize this fanzine, as a clubzine it does its job very well of keeping its members up with the latest news, reports on recent events, fanzine reviews, etc. Though, it would be nice if Shayne printed the addresses of her letter-writers, and at least published the Australian sub rates of Thyme, (not to mention sending our copies to our address).

(Note: when referring to fanzines as being available for "the Usual", we mean they are available for trade, written or drawn contribution and/or letter of comment.)

MUSIC NOTES: From a completely different kind of fandom, we bring you the following: The GoBetweens, our fave rave Brisbane band, have moved to Melbourne, where they are looking for a cafe to play a residency. Their long awaited album will come out from Missing Link records in February. Sometimes I think I need two heads.

\*\*\*\*\* 1981-82 TAFF Ballot \*\*\*\*\*

WHAT IS TAFF? The Transatlantic Fan Fund was created in 1953 for the purpose of providing funds to bring well-known and popular fans across the Atlantic. Since that time, TAFF has regularly sent North American fans to European conventions and European fans to North American conventions. TAFF exists solely through the support of fandom. The candidates are voted for by interested fans all over the world, and each vote is accompanied by a donation of not less than 50 pence (\$1.00). These votes, and the continued interest and generosity of fandom, are what make TAFF possible.

WHO MAY VOTE? Voting is open to anyone who was active in fandom (clubs, fan-zines, conventions, etc.) prior to May 1980, and who contributes at least 50 pence (\$1.00) to the fund. Contributions in excess of the minimum will be gratefully accepted. Only one vote per person is allowed - no proxy votes - and you must sign your ballot. Details of voting will be kept secret; write-ins are permitted. Money orders, postal orders and cheques should be made payable not to TAFF but to the appropriate administrator.

DEADLINE Votes must reach the administrators by 17 April 1982.

VOTING DETAILS TAFF uses the Australian system, which guarantees an automatic run-off and a majority win. You rank the candidates in the exact order you wish to vote. If the leading first-place candidate does not get a majority, the first-place votes of the lowest-ranking candidate are dropped and the second-place votes on those ballots are counted. This process goes on until one candidate has a majority. It is therefore important to vote for second and third place on your ballot. It is also a waste of time to put any name in more than one place.

HOLD OVER FUNDS This choice, similar to 'No Award' in Hugo balloting, gives the voter the chance to vote for no TAFF trip should the candidates not appeal to him/her, or if he/she feels that TAFF should slow down its trips. 'Hold Over Funds' may be voted for in any position you wish.

DONATIONS TAFF needs continuous donations of money, and material to be auctioned, in order to exist. If you are ineligible to vote, or do not feel qualified to vote, why not donate anyway? Just as important as donations is publicity - in fanzines, letters, convention booklets, and by word of mouth - to increase voter participation.

CANDIDATES Each candidate has promised - barring Acts of God - to travel to the 1982 Chicago Worldcon if elected, and has posted bond and provided signed nominations and a platform, which are reproduced overleaf along with the ballot.

Send ballots and contributions to:

European Administrator  
Dave Langford  
22 Northumberland Avenue  
Reading, Berks. RG2 7PW  
U.K.

North American Administrator  
Stu Shiffman  
19 Broadway Terrace (#1D)  
New York, NY 10040  
U.S.A.

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\* verbatim. Anyone reproducing it should substitute their own name(s) below: \*  
\* This version produced by Irwin Hirsh. \*

ROG PEYTON. "Again, I boggle at his staying-power! Chairman of three Novacons, 1977 Eastercon, Brum Group (4 years) and veteran of umpteen other committees, Rog pre-dated me into fandom yet continues stronger than ever. He's a Publishing Giant - BSFA Vector, Tangent for 2 years, newsletters, and some superb programme books. His 'Andromeda' is Britain's top SF bookshop; No.1 auctioneer at every con, he's into films, fancy-dress, art shows - My God, he's done everything (including calling Harlan in the middle of the night)! Unquestionably our most active fan, Rog already has lots of US friends and richly deserves the opportunity to make many more!" (Peter Weston)

NOMINATED BY: Jack Chalker, Malcolm Edwards, Jan Howard Finder, Bob Shaw and Peter Weston.

KEVIN SMITH Kevin Smith has been around in fandom for some nine years, producing fanzines (Drilkiis with Dave Langford; Dot), writing for fanzines (Nabu, Space Junk, and others), chairing some British conventions (Skycon, Paancon 6), falling over at most others, editing an anthology of British fanwriting for Seacon '79 (Dood 70), devising the world famous Surrey Limpwrist constitution, and downing the requisite amount of alcoholic beverages. He currently edits Vector, the critical journal of the BSFA, has clean personal habits, and wants to see America and meet American fans before it is too late (ra ra Ronnie Raygun!). All excellent qualities for a TAFF representative and administrator.

NOMINATED BY: Avedon Carol, Eve Harvey, Terry Hughes, Rob Jackson and Ian Maule.

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I VOTE FOR (list 1, 2, 3):-  
\_\_\_\_\_ Rog Peyton  
\_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Smith  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hold Over Funds

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \_\_\_\_\_ as a contribution to TAFF (cheques etc. payable to Dave Langford or Stu Shiffman, please, and not to 'TAFF'). If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, then in order to qualify for voting please give the name and address of a fan or fan group to whom you are well known:-