

THYME TWELVE

THYME is edited and published by Irwin Hirsh, 279 Domain Rd, South Yarra, Vic. 3141 (phone: (03) 26-1966) and Andrew Brown, 660 Swanston St, Carlton, Vic. 3053, Australia (ph: (03) 347-9842). Available for Trade (2 copies, please), news or subscription: 9 for \$3.00 (within Australia or overseas seamail) or 6 for \$4.00 (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. 10 March 1982

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THYME OUT We've been pretty slack of late. No issue of THYME in January, and it's been just over a month since the previous issue. Our excuses are many and varied, but we think we are back on the track that should see us sticking to the type of schedule we had last year. I knew that on my part being back at college will make it easier for me to get back into making deadlines. I know this sounds strange but having to work around a college timetable makes it easier for me to plan things, and carry those plans through.

Also, there are a few people who deserve credit for their part in the production of the last issue. Thanks go to John Foyster for running it off, to Mandy Herriot, John Packer and Phil Ware for collation help, and to Phil for transporting the mailing to the Post Office.

- Irwin Hirsh

FAN OF THE YEAR RESPONDS "*Blush*" says Jean Weber, "Well, I'm speechless. Fan of the Year! Peter T sure is good at keeping a secret - I never had a clue. Peter does, however, give me some credit which isn't really deserved; in particular, I am not "largely responsible for the rebirth of Canberra fandom". That credit should go to Leigh and Sandra Hyde, Casey Colbert, and assorted others; I am merely their most visible interstate publicist. Sandra Hyde also did a very large share of organizing Circulation One, and most of the work in actually running it - again, I talked a lot, hustled memberships, and badgered people onto panels (1/3 of a multi-stream program) - oh, and did the PR's and Program Book. In other words, the visible stuff, but hardly all the work, or even most of it."

I don't suppose, Jean, that it makes any difference that when we asked Peter to write the article you were about 8 metres away.

NOVA MOB The next meeting of Melbourne's sf discussion group is to be held on the 6th of April at the Foyster/Bryce residence, 21 Skakespeare Grove, St Kilda, Victoria 3182, at 8pm. You are invited to join the other attendees in a pre-meeting dinner at the Danube, in Acland St, St Kilda at 6.00pm. The topic for discussion is not yet known (to your editors, at least) but would've been decided upon at the March meeting. All enquiries can be directed to Bruce Gillespie on 419-4797.

CIRCULATION II is to be held on the weekend of 26-28 November, 1982 at the Hotel Ainslie, Canberra. Membership rates are: supporting: \$5, convertible at rate applying when purchased; attending: \$10 until June, after that, to be announced. Accommodation rates (bed and breakfast) are, per night, single: \$17.50 (without facilities) or \$25 (with facilities), double/twin: \$30 (without facilities) or \$35 (with facilities). A \$10 deposit is required for each person, and the con cannot guarantee rooms or these prices if booking and deposit is not received by 29 October. Contact address is Circulation II, PO Box 544, Civic Square, ACT 2608. A further progress report is to be available by Easter.

ATTENTION: SF & F CLUBS John Foyster, the man in charge of the program at this years Natcon (!), Tschaicon, would like to hear from you. On the main program there will be time for each club to make a five minute presentation, so you can tell fandom what sort of activities you are involved in, recruit new members, etc. However, John needs to know how many clubs and organizations will be involved. John's address is given in the above Nova Mob news, and you are asked to write to him as soon as possible. (Remember, Tschaicon is only about 4 weeks away.)

MEDTREK Jack Herman reports: "On the weekend of 13-14 February, 150 of the faithful gathered together to celebrate yet another Convention at the Hydro Majestic Hotel in the Blue Mountains, 100km from Sydney.

Lest the question spring to mind; "Why wasn't I told?" - it should be pointed out that the "faithful" in this case were the "dreaded" Trekkies and the con was organised by Astrex, the NSW STrek group.

And for a fan who has very little to do with Trek fandom I was pleasantly surprised by the con.

It was not overprogrammed and, in fact, was most light on in the area I expected to dominate - audio-visual. It presented a few interesting panel items but, generally, it succeeded best as a damn good meeting ground for fen - you know, like a "real" convention.

The incredible thing is that media fandom appears to be a hot-bed of putative writers. Their fanzines are festooned with fiction, they like nothing better than constructing plot within the imagined Universes of their heroes, often combining several such Universes.

At Medtrek, the Literary Competition was swamped with entries, the film contest had not a single competitor!

And for those who thought the Motion Picture would fill Trek fandom - it is alive and well, although spreading its base through several related fandoms: Blake's Seven, Star Wars, Hitch-Hikers, Gerry & Sylvia Anderson, Battlestar Galactica, etc.

Quite soon, there may be a National Media/Trek Convention in Australia.

On the basis of what I participated in at Medtrek, I think it's a shame that "fandom" does its best to exclude media fen. At least, that is their perception.

Medtrek, itself, was a little disorganised - Friday night's activities never really happened, most programme items ran late, organisers looked hassled - but worked well nonetheless. The running item - The Galactic Senate Elections - presented several "policy" speeches, only a couple of which were good but it generated conversation and gave people something to do.

The play was a flop and the debate not a raging success but the Masquerade was top-class, the Anderson panel well run and the fanzine panel very interesting.

Parties were not common - Saturday night most attendees either watched Blake's Seven or the movies or both - but we held a "Pink Gins for Grimes" party that went well.

A couple of brace of NZers complemented the Com scenery and, in all, a good relaxed weekend was enjoyed. A good con."

FAN FUNDS With this issue goes a DUFF Ballot Form. Please support this worthy cause.

And the Australian administer of GUFF has asked all people interested in running for the next Guff race to contact him (at the above address). The winner of the next race will travel to the 1983 British Eastercon, and it is important that the nomination deadline be set fairly soon, and John would like to set after consulting with possible candidates.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT of the Australia in 83 bidding committee has been released.

Income was \$4898.09, which was made up of the following items: general donations \$1385.43, subs to bulletin \$786.86, A'83 bulletin advertising \$185, Bank interest \$40.63, sales (t-shirt, etc) \$136.05, general fundraising \$435, specific fundraising - Anti Fan film \$747.05, A'83 the Motion Picture \$138.60, Minicon \$254, Syncon '79 \$100, McCaffrey Con \$72, Noreascon II \$337.70, Sydney Come in '88 \$108.77, Adelaide in '83 \$100, and Anti Fan film rental \$71.

Expenditure was \$4708.87, made up of the following: ads in program books and con PRs \$962.64, overseas directors and agents (parties, flyers etc) \$409.97, production of the bulletin \$328.33, postage \$202.91, stationary and admin. \$92.83, production of sale items \$81.25, overseas cons (world & regionals) \$1100, printing \$323.20, productions costs: Anti Fan film & A'83 the Motion Picture \$1117.42, Minicon \$66, Bank Charge \$1.50, Misc \$22.82.

This left a balance (as of 1 Feb. 1982) of \$189.22, of which about \$80 is due to overseas agents for outstanding costs. The committee has decided that with the remaining balance they will place an ad in the Chicon IV program book, thanking everyone for support during the campaign and also throw support behind the Melbourne in 85 bid.

The above figures do not include an amount of \$300 which was raised and spent at Denvention.

DITMAR THYME Here are the nominations for the Ditmar Awards, to be presented at Tschaicon this Easter:

Best Long Australasian Science Fiction or Fantasy

The Anarch Lords - A. Bertram Chandler Bard - Keith Taylor
Behind the Wind - Patrica Wrightson City of Women - David Ireland
The Man Who Loved Morlocks - David Lake

Best Short Australasian Science Fiction or Fantasy

Armstrong - Jack Wodhams Tales of Mirric - Elizabeth Travers
Where Silence Rules - Keith Taylor

Best International Science Fiction or Fantasy

The Affirmation - Christopher Priest
The Claw of the Conciliator - Gene Wolfe
Radix - A A Attanasio
The Sirian Experiments - Doris Lessing

Best Australasian Fanzine

Australian Science Fiction News - ed. Merv Binns
Q36 - ed. Marc Ortlieb SF Commentary - Bruce Gillespie ed.
Thyme - ed. Irwin Hirsh and Andrew Brown
Weberwoman's Wrevenge - ed. Jean Weber

Best Australasian Fanwriter

Leogh Edmonds Judith Hanna Eric Lindsay Marc Ortlieb

Best Australasian Science Fiction or Fantasy Artist

Steph Campbell Chris Johnston John Packer Marilyn Pride

The William Atheling Award

Being the Late Great Alfred Bester - Damien Broderick, (SFC 62-66)
The Labour Day Group - Thomas Disch (F+SF Feb 81)
Sing a Song of Daniel - Bruce Gillespie (SFC 62-66)

Editorial Comment: May the best fanzine win (corflu at 40 paces).

TIN DUCK AWARDS are awarded at the Swancons for best WA fanac. These are the awards, as presented at the most recent Swancon, for the fanac of 1981: Best Fanwriter: Seth Lockwood, Best Fanzine: Fith (ed. Seth Lockwood), Best Single Issue: Fith 4, Best Dramatic Presentation: The Dune Show, Best Artist (Fan): Bevan Casey, Best Artist (cartoon): John Packer. (source: Peter Toluzzi)

NEWS OF THE RAT FEN It's a bit old but we'd like to note that on 4 Jan. James Styles had the removal/drainage of a groin cyst. Get this from over-use, eh James.

ANDREW BROWN has started playing drums (coff, coff) and is looking for a name for a band that plays Joy Division, Gang of Four, Modern Lovers, The Stooges and The GoBetweens. Write to the editorial address.

AND REMEMBER there is still more time in which to get in your Thyme Poll votes. Some interesting forms have .. already come in...

JUSTIN ACKROYD would like people to note that his address is not C/- Space Age books, but GPO Box 2708X, Melbourne, Vic 3001.

DUFF 1982 Australia - North America

DUFF, the Down Under Fan Fund, was created in 1972 to encourage closer ties between fans in Australia and North America. With host country alternating each year, there have been 9 exchanges of fan representatives since then, supported entirely by voluntary contributions from fans all over the world. DUFF representatives visit a major SF con in the host country and visit with fans they might otherwise never meet in person. DUFFers are treated as special guests and are always well looked after.

DONATIONS: DUFF exists entirely on the contributions of fans and always welcomes material that is auctionable and donations of money. There will be auctions of DUFF material at future conventions. Contributions may be brought to a convention or sent to the local administrator. Anyone may contribute, even if ineligible to vote, and donations in excess of the voting donation are gratefully accepted. Cheques should be made out to: Down Under Fan Fund.

VOTING: Any fan active in fandom since January 1981 may vote. Ballots must be signed and be accompanied by a donation of at least \$2.00 (US or Australian). Each person is allowed only ONE VOTE. If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, please include the name of a fan or fan group who can vouch for you. We will not count unverifiable votes. ALL VOTES MUST REACH AN ADMINISTRATOR BY SATURDAY 10 APRIL 1982.

DUFF uses the Australian preferential system of balloting to guarantee an automatic runoff and a majority win. You rank the candidates in order of preference (1,2,3,4, up to 5); if there is no absolute majority for one candidate after the first count of votes, first place votes for the lowest ranking candidate are dropped and the second place votes on their ballots are assigned to the candidates named. This goes on until one candidate has a majority. It is therefore important to vote for second and third places, at least, if you choose to write in a candidate. (You are not required to fill in more than your first choice.)

CANDIDATES: Each candidate has posted a \$5.00 bond, provided signed nominations, and promised (barring acts of God) to travel to the 40th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION, CHICON IV, September 2-6, 1982, in CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Platforms are reproduced on the reverse side of this form, and the ballot form is below.

AUSTRALIAN ADMINISTRATOR: KEITH CURTIS, Box J175, Brickfield Hill, NSW 2000, Australia
NORTH AMERICAN ADMINISTRATOR: JOYCE SCRIVNER, 2528 15th Avenue South, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, 55404, USA

* * * * * B A L L O T F O R M * * * * * B A L L O T F O R M * * *

Administrators MUST receive this ballot by 10th April 1982

I vote for (list 1,2,3,4,5)
DERRICK ASHBY _____
DAMIAN BRENNAN _____
DARYL MANNELL _____
PETER TOLUZZI _____
Write-in _____

Signature _____
Name (print) _____
Address _____

If you think you may not be known to the administrators, please give the name of a fan or fan group to whom you are known:

Reproduction of this form is encouraged, provided that the text on both sides is reproduced VERBATIM. Please indicate who is producing the ballot.

This copy typed by Jean Weber on behalf of THYME (Irwin Hirsch & Andrew Brown, editors)
20 February 1982

DUFF 1982 Australia-North America CANDIDATE PLATFORMS
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DERRICK ASHBY: 100 well-chosen words on why Derrick Ashby should be chosen by the General Fannish Community to represent Australian Fandom as the DUFF winner in the 1982 season (and I reckon that counts as 31 words already, Curtis). I am 29 which means that I won't be too old to travel when I win, or too young to appreciate the experience. I have been a fan for 8 years and have been around for long enough to know what I'm getting myself into. I have helped organize numerous conventions, survived my time in the Magio Puddin' Club, am current editor of ANZAPA and have published several genzines over the years. I have thus been involved in most facets of fandom. I've smoothed with Tucker, lost Mike Glicksohn LoCs and eaten cheese salad at Degraives (and survived)...

NOMINATED BY: LEIGH EDMONDS, KEN FLETCHER, JERRY KAUFMANN, ERIC LINDSAY and MARC ORTLIEB.

DAMIAN BRENNAN: Groping his way from the sandy wastes of West Australia into the true light of fandom, see our Damian, indubitably red-headed (Redheads of the world ignite!) though somewhat overgrown, Chef Extraordinaire, purveyor of Ratcons and the all-potent Vegenite! The first person to turn up at Swancon 1 in 1976, Damian assisted at the birth of Wafandom and has compiled a fanzine history of its development. A disciple of the Great Carrot in his guise as Big Bunny, he produced BIONIC RABBIT, one of the best and most regular of the wacky Wazines. With his recent migration to the shores of ~~the~~ sun-soaked city of Sydney, he has forsworn his former frivolous image, converted to a neo-paganism, and is producing a new genzine, CAAMORA.

NOMINATED BY: SALLY BEASLEY, JUDITH HANNA, ROBIN JOHNSON, FRAN SKENE and CLIFFORD WIND.

DARYL MANNELL: Welcome to this, my very own DUFF platform. Just sit back and put your feet up and let me amuse you for the next 80 words or so. First question: what is a "Tiny Daryl"? David Attenborough's hairdresser has a witty theory that it is little more than the figment of Von Danniken's bank balance, others mutter "Hoyle's Not-so-big Bang Theory". (More like a faint pop, really.) Seriously though, I entered fandom in 1978, became the Monash Uni's SF Association dictator and editor of the clubzine, COR SERPENTIS, chairperson of UNICON VI which was a great success -- ask the Haldepeople (not that I want to drop names, but this is politics), Secretary of Cinecon 1981, current committee member Aust. SF Foundation, regular ratbag at Space Age and regular attendee at other cons. If I win I'll produce a trip report within 12 months of return, plus meet huge numbers of fans, etc., etc, so vote 1 for Tin. Daryl, the candidate with a heart to match his stomach.

NOMINATED BY: MERVYN BINNS, JAN HOWARD FINDER, CAREY HANDFIELD, LEE SMOIRE and PAUL J STEVENS.

PETER TOLUZZI: SF reader since age 10. Discovered fandom in 1975 at AUSSIECON (wow!) -- instantly hooked. Helped found 2 University SF clubs and contracted D&D early in '76; recovered just in time to pass exams. Co-chair of one National Convention (Syncon 79) and helped organize many other cons. Ain83 Committee member. Con addict -- I haven't missed an Aussie convention in over 3 years. Founding member and second editor of APPLESAUCE; former member of ANZAPA; editor of one clubzine, SCYTALE; currently producing genzine, THE PETER PRINCIPLE. Official mascot at Circulation One (Canberra 1981). Currently President of the Sydney SF Foundation. Founder of Aussie chapters of Massage Fandom, Fisbee Fandom, HiFi-ohondriac and indefatigable music freak. Influences: Monty Python, Hitch-Hiker's Guide... Doonsbury, Tom Robbins. Piscean. Rather fuzzy. Definitely gregarious. Recently titled, "Self-Appointed Guardian of Fandom's Immorality".

NOMINATED BY: A BERTRAM CHANDLER, MIKE GLYER, LINDA LOUNSBURY, JACK HERMAN and JEAN WEBER.