

## THYME FIFTEEN

THYME is edited and published by Andrew Brown, 660 Swanston St., Carlton, Vic. 3053 (phone: (03) 347 9842), and Irwin Hirsh, 279 Domain Rd., South Yarra, Vic. 3053, (phone: (03) 26 1966) Australia. Available for trade (1 copy each, please), news or subscriptions: 9 for \$3 (within Australia or overseas seairmail) or 6 for \$4.00 (overseas airmail). British agent: Joseph Nicholas, Room 9, 94 St. George's Square, Pimlico, London SW1F 3QY, U.K. North American agents: Teresa and Patrick Nielsen Hayden, 4714 36th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98105, U.S.A. An 'X' after your name indicates that this is your last issue unless you Do Something. Registered by Australia Post - publication no. VBH2625. May 18th 1982 (Jan Curtis memorial issue).

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EDITORIAL Last issue we told you that Peter Toluzzi has won this year's DUFF race. This issue we are happy to be able to give you a breakdown of the ballots cast:

	USA	AUST	BOTH
Toluzzi	10	29	39
Others	15	13	28
Total	<u>25</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>67</u>

These figures came not from the Australian DUFF administrator, Keith Curtis, but from the pages of FILE 770, the American newszine published by Mike Glynn. The DUFF voting deadline was the 10th of April, and the issue of FILE 770 containing the above figures was posted on the 22nd of April.

Elsewhere in this issue we have the results of this year's TUFF campaign. The voting deadline was the 17th of April, and Dave Langford, the European administrator, posted out a two page newsletter on the 23rd of April.

In Australia, it is the middle of May and nothing has been heard from Keith Curtis. We are sure that fandom would like to see a complete breakdown of votes, a statement of how much money was raised, and a list of people, clubs and conventions who helped with fundraising.

After that, an explanation of why there were no written announcements calling for candidates emanating from Keith, or why there was no explanation of the extension of the nomination deadline. While Keith may have found it impractical to issue a regular DUFF newsletter, we fail to see why he hesitated to take advantage of the ~~service~~ that THYME offers to people with news that they wish spread. Maybe word of mouth is a good way of eventually reaching everyone, but it is a slow process, and one in which the distortion of information is inherent. And it is not a way through which the impression that DUFF is being run well is sustained. Compared to Leigh Edmonds, who as GUFF administrator released six newsletters over a period of 9 months, Keith's performance as the administrator of an organisation that subsidises overseas trips leaves a lot to be desired.

- Irwin Hirsh and Andrew Brown

THE WRETCHABLE STRIKES BACK For those who had feared that Judith Hanna had disappeared into the maw of the mother country, never to re-emerge, we present the following report on the

British Easter convention, Channelcon (but the rest of you are allowed to look):

"After a month in the ancient Antipodes, slumming it among the perils of Pimlico, I am able to report that the natives are friendly. Their customs are in many respects similar to our own and the majority speak our language quite intelligibly. Under the guidance of their Chief Limpwrist, that Joseph Nicholas of whom many of you will be cognizant, I have visited several of their tribal gatherings; I have been duly initiated as one of the "Surrey Limpwrist", have assisted in the rites of collation and envelope stuffing at a BSFA mailing session, have attended a BSFA monthly meeting whereat one Dave Langford, greeted as a deity of mis-hearing, addressed the congregation, and have undertaken the ordeal of the Tun, that gathering of hostile tribes where the "True Fans" (as they call themselves) rub shoulders with their traditional enemies, the "Trekkies", "Wholes", "Fringies" and "vidiots". At all these gatherings the essential ritual consumption of the sacred liquor brewed of hops and malt was most sedulously observed by the participants. Having by these field trips to such minor gatherings to some extent familiarized myself with the local culture, and having gained acquaintance with a number of the tribal dignitaries - among them Kev Smith, Ian and Janice Maule, Dave and Hazel Langford, John and Eve Harvey - I felt myself emboldened to participate in the tribe's major and most sacred ritual, the Eastercon, which was this year held at Brighton.

So, what was Channelcon like? Well, very much like an Australian convention - just change the names, the faces, and the accents. Only there were eight hundred and something attending members scattered somewhere round the hotel. It didn't seem so vast, probably because there were three bars, a very large book room (translation: "tuckster room"), a main programme hall, a fan room, the vast hotel foyer and corridors, an art room and a video room to spread through. So there always seemed to be about the right density of population floating about in conversation, pint mugs in hand. Which brings us to the next question everyone who met Joseph will be asking:

Do British fans really spend all their time getting falling-over-drunk?

Certainly, they don't seem to feel properly dressed without a drink in hand, but I must report that I saw nobody actually fall down, though D. West was certainly tilting. It is possible to attend a convention over here without becoming an alcoholic. What British fans do seem to spend all their time doing is talking, and they're by no means fussy about where they do it - on panels, in bars, in room-parties (but fewer of these), or in doorways. What do they talk about? Usual sort of thing - politics (Falkland Islands), fanzines, and "What do you think of British fandom and conventions, Judith?" "Absolutely bloody bonzer!" I'd reply, "Just like home!" Well, of course fandom is home.

So, what actually happened? You must imagine the following narrative punctuated by the sometimes plaintive, at other times aggressive, chorus "Buy a badge for Melbourne in '85? Wanna buy a T-shirt?" A surprising number did. All refusals were either courteous or apologetic. Most people seemed to favour the idea of an Australian Worldcon. So there were Joseph and I wandering the

halls, into the giant English breakfast which included bacon and eggs and kidneys and tomato and mushroom and croissants on an all-you-can-eat sort of principle; in and out of programmes, some silly and in Jim Barker's Fan Room (which was well hung with photos and reports on notable events of the Fannish Year such as "JOSEPH'S TECHNICOLLOUR DREAM TRIP"), for instance the Overseas fandom chat show in which Jim was supposed to interview Pascal Thomas (French), Joyce Scrivner and I about our respective fandoms except that Jim and Pascal experienced some difficulty getting a word in edgewise while Joyce and I talked about Marc Ortlieb; or the Fan Turn Challenge (based on TV game shows) in which a Surrey Limpwrist team (Joseph, Kev Smith, Eve Harvey the Channelcon Chairman and me) defeated the Gannets (Newcastle fandom, with Joyce as overseas guest) in the first heat then drew with the Scottish team (including Fran Skene) in the finals; or the semi-serious "Mastermind" quiz in which Joseph (special subject: Cordwainer Smith) crushed all opposition and came out a convincing winner. (Damn it all, now I have to believe him when he says he's clever. Poot!) Or some serious and in the main hall, like the two stimulating guest-of-honour speeches given by John Sladek and Angela Carter, or the panel on the purpose of criticism. But such events, though they provide a sort of common skeleton to all the individual convention experiences, aren't the really memorable part of the event - it's the standing around being told by Chris Priest how much he liked Australia again except for the Cultural Cringe and the Adelaide Festival, or by John Brosnan about those far off days when Damien Broderick was knee-high to a locust and even George Turner was young, or by Phil James what it was like camping on a beach waiting for the shuttle launch, or by Paul Kincaid about strange holiday brochures he has rewritten, or going off to eat Greek food with Dutch fans, Kobi and Ef, and Pascal.

And then, very late Monday evening, after Rog Peyton had flogged off the last yards of awful paperbacks for TAFF, pouring ourselves into the train back to London, arms laden with a crop of new fanzines, wishing we could stay and have it all happen again.

Instant replay please, boss ?"

- Judith Hanna

THE NAKED DINNER Devotees of the gentle pastime of literary discussion will be delighted to discover that the following meetings of the Nova Mob are ~~scheduled~~:

July 2nd: John Foyster on "J.G. Ballard"

July 7th: Russell Blackford on "Edges of the Fantastic: Vonnegut, Pynchon, etc."

August 4th: Lucy Sussex on "Revisions of Sf: How Stories are Changed ... and Changed..."

Meetings convene at 6 p.m. at the Dambe Restaurant, Acland Street, St. Kilda, for dinner, and then proceed to the Bryce/Foyster domicile at 21 Shakespeare Grove, St. Kilda, for the discussion at 8 p.m.

TAFF/GUFF STUFF In England, Kevin Smith has won the 1981/82 TAFF race to send an English fan to the U.S.A., with 80 votes against Rog Peyton's 63 votes.

In Australia, John Foyster urges people who are considering standing for the 1982 GUFF race to send an Australian fan to the U.K. in 1983, to forward their nominations to him in the next couple of months. His address, for those who missed it the first time around, is 21 Shakespeare Grove, St. Kilda, Vic. 3182.

PERTH REVISITED The COA scene is frantic in Western Australia, as Sally Beasley reports:

"I forgot to note that Steve Gurnell, Caroline Strong and Warren Hughes had moved (in the previous round) to 58 Tuam St., Victoria Park, WA 6101. The second round of moves: Zebbee Johnstone has moved out of 21 Gold St., South Fremantle, and Bob Ogden has moved in. Zebbee is being transferred to Adelaide - her company is opening up a new branch there. Joanna Masters is, I believe, still at Spotted Gum Way but is intending to move back with her brother in Joondanna. I don't know the address. Erik Harding is presently staying at Spotted Gum Way en route to a flat. And the more orange blossom department: Ian Henderson and Sue Hodgkins are getting married on Saturday May 1st (a quiet wedding, not a fannish one) and will be moving to the manse attached to the Kids Open Learning School (an old church at 76 Seventh Avenue, Marylands) which Sue's parents run."

ADDENDUM Roy Ferguson asks us to note that the preferred postal address for Julia and himself is still P.O. Box 338, Nedlands, WA 6009, as their residential address is subject to change without notice.

COA'S James Styles, 342 Barkly St., Ararat, Vic. 3377  
Mark Lawson, 8/637 Orrong Rd., Toorak, Vic.  
Zebbee Johnstone, Flat 5, 25 Clifford St., Kurrulita Park, S.A.

NEBULAS The results of the 1982 Nebula Awards, as announced at the Nebula Banquet in Berkeley, California, on the 24th of April, are as follows:

- Best Novel: The Claw of the Conciliator - Gene Wolfe
- Best Novella: The Saturn Game - Paul Anderson
- Best Novelette: The Quickening - Michael Bishop
- Best Short Story: The Bone Flute - Lisa Tuttle

However, the winner in the short story category, Lisa Tuttle, had withdrawn her nomination following her allegations of dirty doings as regards vote-canvassing by her competitor in the short story category, George Florange-Guthrie ("The Quiet", F & SF July). It now appears that no award i will be made in this category. (Ansible)

OUR FOREIGN KINDRED Readers of TIME will from time to time notice the titles "Ansible" and "File 770" appearing parenthetically after various news items originating from these sources. For those readers interested in subscribing to these excellent British and American newszines, so invaluable to the Australian reader with an interest in doings fannish overseas, we present the following details:

ANSIBLE Published by Dave Langford, 22 Northumberland Avenue, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 7FW, UK. Foreign subscriptions: 4 issues for 1 pound.

5.  
FILE #70 Published by Mike Glyer, 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys, CA  
91401, USA. Subscriptions: by surface mail, \$US 3 for 5  
issues; airmail, \$US 1 each.

WHODUNNIT ? Some of our readers have reported a certain mystification as to who writes what in *THYME*, as generally the only items credited are those from outside contributors. As a rule, the editor whose name appears first on the colophon is the one who has written the issue (thus it is Andrew Brown who is writing this); any items not written by the issue's editor are generally credited, although there have been occasions when we've forgotten to do this. .

HUGOS AND OTHERS The nominations for the awards to be presented at the 1982 World Science Fiction Convention, Chicon IV, are as follows:

BEST NOVEL

DOWNBELOW STATION	C. J. Cherryh
LITTLE, BIG	John Crowley
THE MANY-COLOURED LAND	Julian May
PROJECT POPE	Clifford Simak
CLAW OF THE CONCILIATOR	Gene Wolfe

BEST NOVELLA

"The Saturn Game"	Poul Anderson
"In The Western Tradition"	Phyllis Eisenstein
"Emergence"	David R. Palmer
"Blue Champagne"	John Varley
"True Names"	Vernor Vinge
"With Thimbles, With Forks and Hope"	Kate Wilhelm

BEST NOVELETTE

"The Quickening"	Michael Bishop
"The Thermals of August"	Edward Bryant
"The Fire When It Comes"	Parke Godwin
"Guardians"	George R. R. Martin
"Unicorn Variations"	Roger Zelazny

BEST SHORT STORY

"The Quiet"	George Florence-Guthridge
"Absent Thee From Felicity Awhile"	Somtow Sucharitkul
"The Fasher"	John Varley
"The Woman the Unicorn Loved"	Gene Wolfe

BEST NONFICTION BOOK

ANATOMY OF WONDER	ed. by Neil Barron
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AFTER MAN	Dougal Dickson
DANSE MACABRE	Stephen King
THE GRAND TOUR	Ben Miller and William K. Hartman
THE AHP OF LEO AND DIANE DILLON	ed by, Byron Preiss

BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR

Terry Carr  
Edward Ferman  
David Hartwell  
Stanley Schmidt  
George Scithers

BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Vincent DiFate  
Carl Lundgren  
Don Maitz  
Rowena Merrill  
Michael Whelan

BEST FANZINE

FILE 770 ed. by Mike Glyer  
LOCUS ed. by Charles N. Brown  
SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE  
ed. by Andrew Porter  
SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW  
ed. by Richard Geis

BEST FANWRITER

Richard E. Geis  
Michael Glyer  
Arthur Hlavaty  
Dave Langford

BEST FANARTIST

Alexis Gilliland  
Joan Hanke-Woods  
Victoria Poyser  
William Rotsler  
Stu Shiffman

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

DRACONSAYER  
EXCALIBUR  
OUTLAND  
RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK  
TIME BANDITS

JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD

David Brin  
Alexis Gilliland  
Robert Stallman  
Michael Swanwick  
Paul O. Williams

(File 770)

A COMMENT ON THE ABOVE "I thought that this was an encouragement award. For the last two years Robert Stallman, admittedly a good writer, has been on the final ballot, and Susan Petrey was on the 1981 ballot. The problem here is that they are both dead. What's the point of encouraging dead writers when there are numerous other new and living writers trying to get a break? How about an amendment to the John W. Campbell award stating that only living authors be eligible?"

- Justin Ackroyd

HEY HEY, MY MY The Red Cardigans, the band that Andrew Brown plays drums for, played their first party on the 15th of May. The reaction to their mixture of Joy Division, Stooges/Velvet Underground was mixed, but a couple of people danced and a few even applauded.