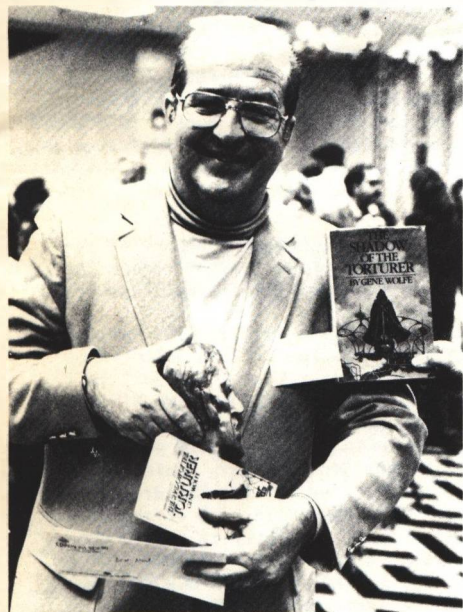


**AUSTRALIAN**

Volume 5 Number 3

**NEWS**

OCTOBER 1983

**IT'S MELBOURNE IN '85**

C.N.Brown

## Melbourne, Australia Has Won The Bid To Hold The 1985 World SF Convention. GENE WOLFE IS G. .H.

It was not exactly a surprise for all those people regularly in touch with the world of Science Fiction Fandom, but it is now official that the World SF Convention will be held in Melbourne again in 1985. The exact date is August 22nd to 26th and the venue is the Southern Cross Hotel. The voting for the 1985 World Con site was 642 for Melbourne, out of a total of 725 votes recorded.

The Professional Guest of Honor for AUSSIECON TWO is Gene Wolfe, the American writer who is best known for his four part novel, "The Book of the New Sun". He has been widely acclaimed for his writing, which includes "The Fifth Head of Cerberus", "The Island of Dr Death and Other Stories", "The Death of Dr Island", (A 1974 Nebula Award winning story), and a non-sf novel, "Peace". He was born in Brooklyn, New York in May 1931 and has lived in various parts of the U.S.A, spent some time in the army in Korea, and lectured at University before starting writing.

The Fan Guest of Honour is Ted White, who is well known in the sf field as writer, editor, and in particular a fan. He has been one of the most outspoken and outstanding writers in the fan field, winning the Hugo for Best Fan Writer in 1963.

We will publish further details on AUSSIECON TWO as they become available. Meanwhile you can write to AUSSIECON TWO, GPO Box 2253U, Melbourne, 3001, Australia, for more information. Current membership rates are A\$28 and US\$25 Supporting and A\$45 and US\$40 Attending, up till December 31st 1983.

The 1983 World SF Convention, CONSTELLATION, was held in Baltimore, Maryland in the USA on September the 1st to the 5th. Well over 6000 people attended and there were over 1000 non-attending memberships. At this time we do not have any other specific details apart from the Hugo winners and they are as follows:

**THE HUGO AWARD WINNERS 1983**BEST NOVEL:

FOUNDATION'S EDGE by Isaac Asimov  
(Doubleday US) (Granada UK)

BEST NOVELLA:

"Souls" by Joanna Russ (F&SF January)

BEST NOVELETTE:

"Fire Watch" by Connie Willis  
(IASFM, 15th February)

BEST SHORT STORY:

"Melancholy Elephants" by Spider Robinson (Analog, June)

BEST NON-FICTION:

ISAAC ASIMOV: THE FOUNDATIONS OF HIS  
SCIENCE FICTION by James Gunn  
(Oxford University Press US)

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION:

BLADERUNNER

BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR:

Edward L. Ferman (Magazine of F&SF)

BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST:

Michael Whelan

BEST FANZINE:

Locus

BEST FAN WRITER:

Richard E. Geis

BEST FAN ARTIST:

Alexis Gilliland

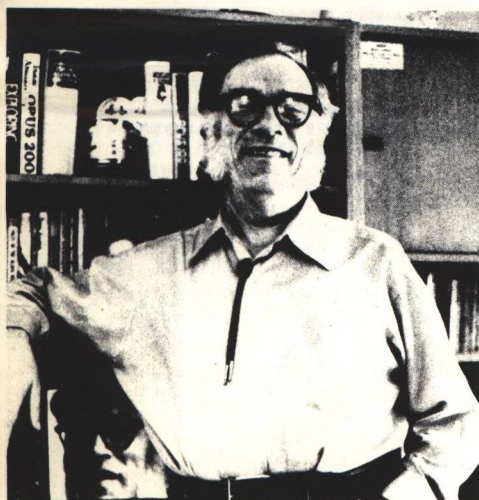
THE JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD:

Paul O. Williams

The 1985 North American Science Fiction Convention will be held in Austin, Texas.

## FOUNDATION'S EDGE BY ISAAC ASIMOV

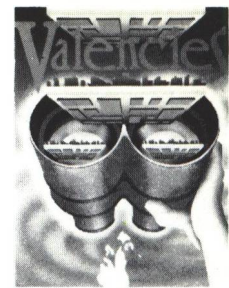
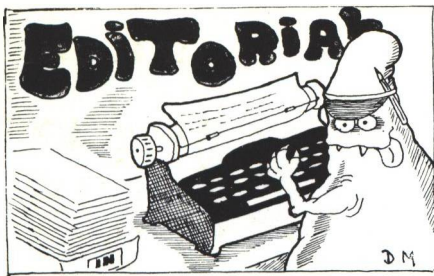
### Wins Hugo Best Novel



C.N.Brown

ISAAC ASIMOV won his 2nd Best Novel Hugo with FOUNDATION'S EDGE, which is the 1st in a second "Foundation" Trilogy. It is due for publication in paperback by Granada in the U.K. and Del Rey in the U.S.A.





Dear Readers,

Well, the best laid plans of mice and men..... This issue is not out as early as I would have liked it to be, but considering that my newly discovered assistant on the last issue has deserted me, my chief typist at Space Age Books, who usually does quite a bit of the typing on the NEWS for me, Julianne Wylie has just become the mother of a six pound baby boy, and that I am still recovering from the shock of Paul Stevens announcing his engagement, this issue is lucky to be out now.

I have so much news to include in this issue, along with other things, it could go to forty pages. The only thing that is stopping me from publishing more often is time. The cost of production apart from typing, is not the real problem, although we certainly could use more advertising. So if anybody in Melbourne can spare any Saturday or Sunday afternoons to help me out with a bit of typing, mainly letters and reviews, I would be most obliged. Due to the fact that we are having a very bad run at Space Age, I have had to reduce the staff, so that is also greatly limiting the time I can put into the NEWS.

But enough of this rambling, it is only wasting space. Thanks to the efforts of many people, including our many friends in the USA, the people who did all the work on the 1983 bid and fans all over Australia as well as the bidding committee itself, Melbourne has won the World Convention for 1985. Due to the personal and business problems I am facing at the moment, I expect to have very little to do with the running of '85, certainly a lot less than '75, but I feel that the NEWS has done its bit to promote the Australian bids and I will continue to publicise the convention itself over the next two years. I expect to include special features, interviews and such, relating to it and I will be happy to send circulars and/or pass on information to the organising committee. It is going to be a great con and further help to put Australian sf on the map. I hope that a great number of fans from overseas can attend, as they will enjoy a much more relaxed and less crowded world con than they have been used to recently. 6000..... it's getting like a football match.

There were few surprises if any in the Hugo Award results, including FOUNDATION'S EDGE and the usual Fanzine and Fan Writer Awards, but it was nice to see a real SF film in BLADERUNNER win. JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD Winner, Paul O. Williams, has apparently made quite an impression with his four post-nolocaust novels (THE BREAKING OF NORTH WALL ect.) from Del Rey.

Merv Binns/Editor.

The latest publication from NORSTRILIA PRESS publishers is GREG EGAN'S novel AN UNUSUAL ANGLE. They have published a small quantity in cloth at \$15.95, but the major part of the run is in paper back at \$7.95. It is reviewed in this issue of the NEWS. Norstrilia's next publication will be George Turner's autobiographical work, which will be out in time for EUREKACON in Melbourne next Easter.

HYLAND HOUSE have just published LEE HARDING'S new novel WAITING FOR THE END OF THE WORLD. It is being distributed by Dents. That is also reviewed in this issue. METHUEN are re-issuing a completely revised edition of Harding's CHILDREN OF ATLANTIS, which was originally published by Cassells. Other titles previously published by Cassells are also to be re-issued.

To correct a previous report, the New South Wales Film Corporation have already backed first-draft funding of the script for a movie of DISPLACED PERSON. This is a step beyond taking an option, as we reported last issue, but no guarantee that the movie will be made. It is based of course on the award winning novel by Lee Harding.

British publishers VIRAGO have reprinted M. BARNARD ELDERSHAW'S novel TOMORROW AND TOMORROW AND TOMORROW. It will be distributed in Australia by The Australasian Publishing Company. See the review in this issue.

The UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND PRESS have followed up their publication of Van Ikin's PORTABLE AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION, with a novel by RORY BARNES and DAMIEN BRODERICK, entitled VALENCIES. It is set in a regimentally controlled society in 4004 AD. It is due for October publication. PB \$7.95

The AUSTRALIAN BOOKSELLER & PUBLISHER featured an article in the August '83 issue, SCIENCE FICTION PUBLISHING IN AUSTRALIA by Mervyn R. Binns and Justin P. Ackroyd of Space Age Books. It covered a very brief history of sf in Australia, current activity and touched on the visits of overseas authors and conventions.

CORY and COLLINS have a number of new books in the works due out before the end of the year. Details next issue.

Other Australian publications include: AUSTRALIAN HORROR STORIES Selected by Bill Wannan, for Currey & O'Neil (HC), DARK BRIGHT WATER, BEHIND THE WIND and THE ICE IS COMING, all by Patricia Wrightson in Puffin/Penguin pbs and THE DRAGON STONE by Ruth Manley, which was shortlisted by the Children's Council of Australia Book of the Year Awards 1983. The later is a Japanese fantasy, second in a projected trilogy, the first, THE PLUM-RAIN SCROLL, having won the afore mentioned award in 1982.

## AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS

ISSN 0155-8870 is edited and published by Mervyn R. Binns under the sponsorship of The AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION FOUNDATION.

ASFN is registered for posting under Australia Post, publication # VBG2791 The address for all correspondence is 305/307 Swanston Street, Melbourne, 3000, Victoria, AUSTRALIA.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$7.00 Australian for 6 issues, surface mail. \$12.00 Airmail. Please make all payments payable to the editor, Mervyn R. Binns. Our American agent is LOCUS, Box 13305, Oakland, CA 94661. Please send all payments in the U.S.A. to LOCUS: \$6.95 US surface mail and \$11.55 US airmail. Our British agent is GERALD BISHOP, 2 Cowper Road, Cambridge, CB1 3SN, England. : 3.75 pounds surface and 6.20 pounds airmail.

ADVERTISING: Professional Rate - Full back page \$60.00. Interior page \$50.00 Quarter page \$15.00. Half page \$30.00. Full page copy ready size is 360 mm V x 275 mm H. Half page 180 mm V x 275 mm H. Quarter page 180 mm V x 135 mm H. 10% discount is applicable on all professional advertisements placed on a regular basis. A 50% discount applies to fan advertisements for conventions, clubs, fanzines and other activities.

N.B. A 10% discount is allowed to subscription agencies other than our official agents listed above, but payment must be sent direct to us. We suggest that any additional costs be charged direct to the subscriber.

We are Australian Agents for:

LOCUS: Subscription rates: \$38.80 12 issues Airmail \$75.15 for 24 issues Airmail.  
\$25.50 12 .. Sea Mail \$47.65 .. 24 .. Sea Mail.

SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE: \$33.00 for 12 issues Airmail/ \$57.60 for 24 issues AM.

SCIENCE FICTION BOOKS PUBLISHED IN BRITAIN: \$3.15 for 6 issues.

NEW RATES FOLLOWING DEVALUATION!

# PUBLISHING : NEWS

## TIMESCAPE UPDATE

TIMESCAPE books as an sf line is still in the melting pot. Books bought by David Hartwell will continue to come out as far ahead as March 1984. The controversy that was initiated by the announcement of literary agent Scott Meredith's contract with Pocket Book publishers to package the Timescape line, followed by editor David Hartwell's exit from the scene, was cooled somewhat when Meredith, giving rather unconvincing reasons, withdrew from the deal. The sf authors through the SF Writers Association and in the person of their spokesperson Marta Randall, had made their objections to the idea of an agent handling actual publishing for one publisher in this way, quite clear. The SFWA was still concerned that authors rights be protected and that publishers obligations be carried out.

Representatives from the SFWA and the Pocket Book executives met early August and sorted out most of their differences. The matters directly concerning the authors seem to have been worked out, but the fate of the Timescape line and the future plans of sf publishing by Pocket has not been made clear. They do intend to replace David Hartwell, which does indicate they will continue to publish sf, but the fate of Timescape and the proposed "Timescape" series is still to be made clear.

Norman Spinrad has put his finger on the problems with Timescape in his column "Stayin' Alive" in the September issue of *Locus*. Basically what he says is that Pocket Books executive Ron Busch, tried to emulate the success of Del Rey Books, and Berkley when David Hartwell was with them. The difference was that Del Rey and Berkley had established back lists and stables of authors to draw on, while at Pocket Hartwell was virtually working from scratch. Busch expected too much in too short a time. Things that were done like starting the Timescape line might have worked in time, but bad packaging, for instance the badly designed covers, which we most certainly agree with, did not help. We will now just have to wait and see what happens, as Pocket look for a new editor for their sf and/or a packager and keep our fingers crossed that all the good work done by David Hartwell does not go down the drain.

A letter from David Hartwell to *Locus* confirms that the hard cover Timescape programme is firm until the middle of 1984. The books are in production. The paperback programme was worked out by Hartwell and Mimi Panitch right through 1984, but the schedule now is only firm up to April 1984. Hartwell also said that the programme will remain virtually untouched up to these dates "is a great source of satisfaction" to him "and in spite of the turmoil caused by the Scott Meredith uproar, the books that he acquired and edited will to a large extent appear exactly as planned.

Timescape is still Timescape through the first half of 1984 and, perhaps, beyond", Hartwell said. He has advised all his friends in the sf world, that his own small press Dragon Press, Box 76 Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570, is still in operation and he can be reached there. He expects to publish soon a volume of critical work by Samuel Delany.

In a final word on the Timescape situation, Gregory Benford, originator of the name "Timescape", with his Nebula winning novel, said that he was not opposed to the continued use of the name by Pocket, but he said, "I would be seriously perturbed if they used the name "Star-scape." Benford's next novel, which is to be published by Pocket/Timescape is titled STARScape.

## BLUEJAY BOOKS DETAILS

An update on the new US publisher BLUEJAY includes the following titles for near future publication: DARK VALLEY DESTINY, a biography of "Conan" creator Robert E. Howard, by L. Sprague de Camp, Catherine Crook de Camp and Jane W. Griffin, will be a December hard cover. In the same month two trade pbs will be THE PENULTIMATE TRUTH by Philip K. Dick and DEATHBIRD STORIES by Harlan Ellison. January will see THE JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARDS, edited by George R.R. Martin. This the NEW VOICES series previously published by Berkley. This volume is the first in the ongoing series that Bluejay will publish. It contains stories by C.J. Cherryh, Jack Chalker and others.

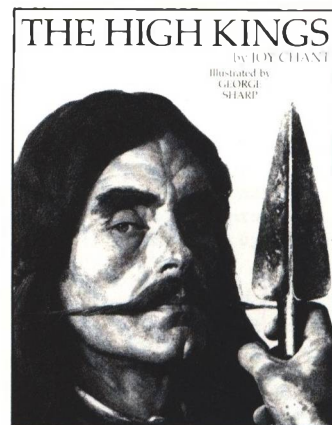
February will see WORLD'S END by Joan Vinge, her major new novel, in hard cover. Miller & Underwood are doing a limited edition. DOCTOR ADDER by K.W. Jeter will be published in March, with a forward by the late Philip K. Dick and a cover illustration by Barclay Shaw, who has done the covers for the recent new editions of Harlan Ellison books for ACE. PB we assume. This book, which was reportedly written in 1971, was rejected by other publishers because of its outrageous attitudes. THE STARS ARE THE STYX by Theodore Sturgeon will also be out in March. A title many people missed out on when published by Dell.

A few other titles that Bluejay intend to publish in the future include : THE BEAST THAT SHOUTED LOVE AT THE HEART OF THE WORLD and ELLISON WONDERLAND by Harlan Ellison; VENUS PLUS X and THE DREAMING JEWELS by Theodore Sturgeon; LAND OF UNREASON by L. Sprague de Camp; DARKER THAN YOU THINK by Jack Williamson; EARTHBLOOD by Keith Laumer and Rosel George Brown; PLANET OF WHISPERS by James Patrick Kelly; WONDER'S CHILD, an autobiography by Jack Williamson; TRUE NAMES and PEACE WAR by Vernor Vinge; RIDING THE TORCH by Norman Spinrad; PHOENIX IN THE ASHES, a collection by Joan D. Vinge; and a MIRROR FOR OBSERVERS by Edgar Pangborn. We hope that Bluejay are successful in their venture and that all these worthwhile titles are again or for the first time, made available to readers.

We gave the incorrect address for Bluejay in our last issue. The correct address is: 130 West 42nd St., #514, New York NY 10036, USA.

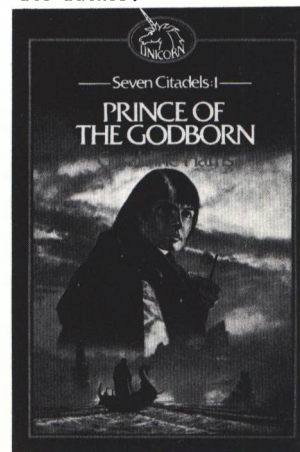
## ALLEN & UNWIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Besides the new 1984 J.R.R. TOLKIEN Calendar, ALLEN and UNWIN publishers have a number of new publications due. Particularly in their UNICORN paperback series. Australian release dates are: FIGURES OF EARTH by James Cabell in August, THE CHARWOMAN'S SHADOW by Lord Dunsany in September, a new unabridged single volume pb edition of THE LORD OF THE RINGS in October, PRINCE OF THE GODBORN by Geraldine Harris (the first in a series) and LANDS OF NEVER edited by Maxim Jakubowski in February '84, WHEN VOIHA WAKES by Joy Chant also February '84 and THE SILVER STALLION by J.B. Cabell March '84. A November release will be THE HIGH KINGS by Joy Chant, illustrated by George Sharp. This title, a hard cover, was published in the USA by Bantam and contains ten stories based on Celtic legends. The illustrations are really impressive and the covers on the Unicorn books are also quite effective.



LANDS OF NEVER, edited by Maxim Jakubowski is in two volumes and will include Joy Chant's first short story and a "Helliconia" fantasy by Brian Aldiss. FROST by Robin Bailey has been bought for future inclusion in the UNICORN series, plus books by Tanith Lee and others.

J.R.R. TOLKIEN's son Christopher, has an extensive file of his father's notes and unpublished material, stored in his garage. Announced for December UK publication is THE BOOK OF LOST TALES Part One by J.R.R. Tolkien, edited by Christopher Tolkien, so it would appear that we may still see published, even more material by the late author.





JOE HALDEMAN has recovered from the physical effects of being shot last December, apart from an "interesting" scar, but some psychological effects are still around. "...this is a quiet, safe little town... or so we thought", said Gay Haldeman. A play of FOREVER WAR is due to open at the Organic Theater Company, 3319 Clark St., Chicago, on October 19th. Joe will be teaching sf writing and short story writing, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology over the next year. The Haldeman's address effective August 10th is : c/o Writing Program, MIT, 14E-310, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA. Ace will publish Joe's novel WORLDS APART, the sequel to WORLDS, which was published by Viking in hard cover in October. Joe was presented with the Phoenix Award at this year's DeepSouthCon.

Ace/Berkley have bought ALAN DEAN FOSTER's novel SLIPT, three new "Lord Darcy" novels by Michael KURLAND and Tom WATERS, based on outlines by Randall GARRETT, two new "Thieves World" anthologies edited by Robert ASPRIN and Lynn ABBEY, SWORDS OF RAEMLLYN by Robert E. VARDEMAN and George PROCTOR (start of a new fantasy series) SUNSMOKE by James KILLIUS. Berkley will publish THE WIND FROM A BURNING WOMAN by Greg BEAR, an Arkham House original.

A seven-page bibliography, ARTHUR BERTRAM CHANDLER: MASTER NAVIGATOR OF SPACE, is now available from Galactic Central Productions, Gordon Benson Jr. 414 Wisconsin NE, Albuquerque NM 87108, USA. Cost and postage \$1.00 US.

CHRIS PRIEST as one of the 20 novelists in the British Book Marketing Council's Best of Young British Authors Promotion, presented a personal view of the campaign and his part in it, in the *British Bookseller* July 2nd issue. He said that he enjoyed the exercise, but was doubtful that the publicity gained would be lasting or really change anything.

JOHN CROWLEY'S Fantasy Award winning novel LITTLE BIG, has been released in paperback editions by Methuen in the UK and Bantam in the USA. Bantam have reissued his earlier books, BEASTS, ENGINE SUMMER and THE DEEP. He is currently working on a new novel, tentatively titled AEGYPT, which Bantam will publish in 1985.

Bantam will also publish STARS IN MY POCKET LIKE GRAINS OF SAND by Samuel R. DELANY. A new Novel. All of Delany's books are now available in Bantam, following the recent publication of new editions of EMPIRE STAR, NOVA and NEVERONYA. Another Bantam author, DAVID BRIN, has THE PRACTICE EFFECT coming next Summer US. WARREN NORWOOD, whose "Windhover Tapes" series have been well received, has THE SEREN CENACLES out from Bantam in October and the fourth and last in the Windhover series, THE PLANET OF FLOWERS, will be published March 1984. He is working on a new series, "The Double Spiral War".

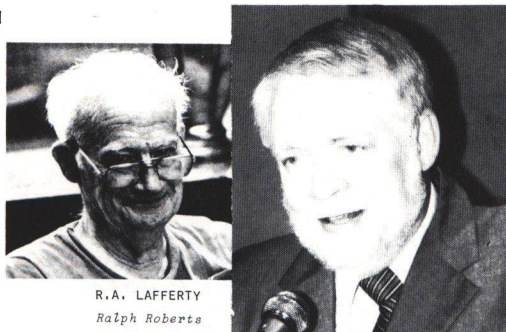
SHAWNA MCCARTHY (editor of *Asimov's SF Magazine*) and WAYNE BARLOW (artist, author of the Hugo winning book BARLOW'S GUIDE TO EXTRATERRESTRIALS) were married in Manhattan on June 26th.

ROBERT REGINALD has signed a contract with The Ayer Company, successors to Arno Press, to edit 20 anthologies of

criticism of SF and Fantasy. He will also edit 2 anthologies of criticisms on Heinlein and LeGuin. Borgo Press are to publish a collection of essays by Harlan Ellison, SLEEPLESS NIGHTS IN A PROCURUSTEAN BED, which is due to be published late '83.

MIKE RESNICK has sold EROS AT ZENITH, the 2nd of his four book "Tales of the Velvet Comet" series to NAL. PAULINE GEDGE'S novel STARGATE, which is still waiting for US publication in pb, has been bought by German publisher Goldmann. BOB VARDEMAN has sold the last two titles in his "Cenotaph Road" series to Berkley, who have also purchased THE LAST WARRIOR QUEEN by Mary Mackey, RED LIMIT FREEWAY by John De Chancie, SORCERESS' TOWER by Patricia Wrede, THE SORCERY WITHIN by Dave Smeds, FIRST AND FINAL RITES by Shariann Lewitt, THE WINDSINGERS by Megan Lindholm and PROCURATOR by Kirk Mitchell.

ALGIS BUDRYS has sold a book of his reviews to Southern Illinois University Press. Containing many of the reviews first published in *Galaxy*, plus a new introduction and connective pieces, its publication next year will fulfil a long cherished goal.



R.A. LAFFERTY  
Ralph Roberts

Algis Budrys  
Rick Hawes

R.A. LAFFERTY has a number of books due to be published in the near future. THROUGH ELEGANT EYES: STORIES OF AUSTRALIA AND THE MEN WHO KNEW EVERYTHING is a second collection from Corroboree Press. This publisher published GOLDEN GATE AND OTHER STORIES in May this year. THE BEST OF R.A. LAFFERTY and MORE THAN MELCHISEDECH, a collection and a novel, are on the Starblaze list, but there is no indication when we will see them. The novel THE ANNALS OF KLEPSIS was published by Ace in July and a collection, RINGING CHANGES is also on the way from Ace.

RICHARD MCENROE has sold two novels to Bantam, WOLKENHEIM FAIRDAY and SKINNER. MICHAEL KUBE-MCDOWELL has sold a trilogy, the "Trigon Disunity" to Berkley. The titles of the three books are EMPRISE, ENIGMA and EMPERY. They are related to two stories first published in *Amazing*, plus a novelette, "Menace", recently sold to *Analogue*. The trilogy is listed for 1985 publication. The author has taken a year's leave from his job as a science teacher to complete the books.

Bantam have bought HARRY HARRISON's THE STAINLESS STEEL RAT IS BORN; a new trilogy by Warren G. NORWOOD, THE DOUBLE SPIRAL WAR; Ursula K. LE GUIN's, THE EYE OF THE HERON; and they will also publish Parke GODWIN's BELOVED EXILE, which is a sequel to his Arthurian novel FIRELORD, and features Guenevere after Arthur's Death.

PETER NICHOLLS (The Science Fiction Encyclopedia) is currently working on FANTASTIC CINEMA for Ebury Press. His plans to produce a companion fantasy volume to the SF Encyclopedia, have been curtailed for the moment, as he feels that the market for such a book is not there. He loves the movies, so he is doing a book on them instead.

STEPHEN KING made a successful publicity tour of England recently, mainly to promote the release of his novel CHRISTINE. Although he had a very busy schedule, appearing on TV and giving various media interviews and signing books at Forbidden Planet bookstore, he had time to attend the British Fantasy Society's meeting and talk to fans and enjoy a few pints of beer.

JOHN BUSH of Gollancz publishers, (we thought he had retired), was most enthusiastic about a new novel at the meeting of the British SF Association last June. Passing casually over new books by Bob Shaw, John Sladek and Ian Watson, he became very enthusiastic about GOLDEN WITCHBREED by Mary Gentle.

SUZETTE HADEN ELGIN has sold STAR-ANCHORED, STAR-ANGERED, the fourth book in her Coyote Jones series, to DAW.

## ABA REPORT

The American Booksellers Association annual convention was held in Dallas, Texas this year. Many sf fans and professionals attended. Andrew Porter of *SF Chronicle* reported there were no major surprises amongst the books on offer there. PET SEMETARY by Stephen King and ROBOTS OF DAWN by Isaac Asimov, would most likely be the major big selling titles in the f&sf field. The publishers of the Asimov, Doubleday, were surprised at the sales of FOUNDATION'S EDGE, having treated Asimov as a reliable and profitable, if unspectacular author, but they have gone all out on THE ROBOTS OF DAWN to promote and sell this Asimov title. The big paperback sales were expected from Del Rey titles in FRIDAY by Heinlein and FOUNDATIONS EDGE from Asimov. Porter hinted that DAW/NAL may be looking to expand their activities by mid-1984. We assume this may mean trade paperback and/or hard cover editions.



THE BRITISH BOOK MARKETING COUNCIL have initiated the "Venture Into Science Fiction" promotion to be held in October in the UK. 20 books have been selected for the special promotion. All major publishers are involved, but only a few of the books are new releases; HELLICONIA SPRING by Brian Aldiss (Granada), 2010: ODYSSEY TWO by Arthur C. Clarke (Granada), MAJIPOOR CHRONICLES by Robert Silverberg (Pan), and THE CITADEL OF THE AUTARCH by Gene Wolfe (Arrow).



## STARBLAZE DUMPS STINE



HANK STINE, senior editor of Starblaze, was given a month's notice by Donning Publishers. According to Stine they intend to continue publishing, but "in a new direction" and they couldn't afford his salary. KAY REYNOLDS will take over for now. Stine plans to do freelance writing and editing. In another report Stine indicated that he had corrected various mistakes in publishing and brought in over \$23,000 in subsidiary rights while at Starblaze. This publisher seems to have had a lot of trouble getting their act together. Delays in publishing announced titles have been evident and it seemed that Stine was making some improvements, but apparently not. Space Age books for one have had some frustrating deals with the Donning Company. Ms Reynolds says, "There's a lot of business that needs to be straightened out".

A later report from Kay Reynolds appears in September *Locus*. She says she hopes to publish *FIRE FROM THE WINE DARK SEA* by Somtow Sucharitkul in time for the Worldcon, which means it may be out now. *THE ART OF CHESLEY BONESTELL* will hopefully be an October release. Reynolds reported that she has been with Donning for four years, after going there hoping for work in the editorial or art department. She was a fan artist. She worked on the *ELFQUEST* books during her first year among other things and then worked on the sf line under Hank Stine for several years. She intends to develop a definite publishing schedule, but some titles in the catalog will be postponed.

## SPHERE BOOKS SCIENCE FICTION PROMOTION

SPHERE books launched a special sf promotion in August to publicise *NO ENEMY BUT TIME* by Michael Bishop, along with *THE SPIRIT OF DORSAI* by Gordon Dickson and *LORD OF THE TREES* by Philip Jose Farmer. Re-issues of titles such as *REPORT ON PROBABILITY A* by Brian Aldiss and *MIRKHEIM* by Poul Anderson will also be part of the promotion and Sphere intends to widen their sf programme.

Sphere books are due to publish some collections of horror stories by a new author, *CLIVE BARKER'S BOOKS OF BLOOD*. Author/editor Ramsey Campbell says: "I consider Clive Barker the most important new writer in the field since Peter Straub and maybe even before him."

OUR THANKS as usual to *Locus*, *Science Fiction Chronicle*, *Ansible* and various other sources of information included in this issue.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: "My idea of hell is having to watch NBC's mini-series of 'The Martian Chronicles' ", Ray Bradbury.

CROWN Publishers in the USA, have announced a new series of hard cover "Classics of Modern Science Fiction". An introduction to the series has been written by Isaac Asimov and he says that the series is "a second chance for quality sf which was undervalued the first time." Titles announced for publication in Winter in the US include: *MEN, MARTIANS AND MACHINES* by Eric Frank Russell, *THE JOY MAKERS* by James Gunn, *THE SHORES OF ANOTHER SEA* by Chad Oliver and *THE CLASSIC PHILIP JOSE FARMER 1952-1964*. The US price will be \$7.95 each. It is an on-going series, but continuation will not just depend on the more or less endless number of titles they can reprint, we would think, but how the first selections sell.

BERKLEY publishers plan a series of illustrated classic sf, *MASTERWORKS OF SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY*. The first four volumes will be by Arthur C. Clarke, Fritz Leiber, Philip Jose Farmer and Frank Herbert. They will choose what they consider are the stories that best illustrate their writing career and add one new story. The Clarke volume, due out in November '83, *THE SENTINEL*, will contain the title story, plus "Refugee", "The Songs of Distant Earth", "Guardian Angel" and others, and will be illustrated by visionary architect/designer, Lebbeus Woods.

The PENGUIN UK sf line is to be "rejuvenated" in Spring '84. The not so popular Fred Hoyle titles will be allowed to go out of print, but the more recent addition to their list Jack Chalker's, titles will be kept.

A series of games storybooks published by Penguin in the Puffin imprint, *FIGHTING FANTASY*, have sold very well. Titles so far include: *THE WARLOCK OF FIRETOP MOUNTAIN* by Steve Jackson and Ian Livingstone, *The Forest of Doom* by Livingstone and *THE CITADEL OF CHAOS* by Jackson. Two more are due to be published in October in the UK. The authors are the editors of the gaming magazine *White Dwarf*.

GRANADA publishers have some big paperback titles coming up over the next few months. The fourth in the Doris Lessing Canopus in In Argos: Archives, *THE MAKING OF THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR PLANET 8*, 2010: *ODYSSEY TWO* by Arthur C. Clarke, *THE COMPLETE ROBOT*, a collection and *FOUNDATION'S EDGE*, both by Isaac Asimov. The later is a January UK publication. 2010 was due for Australian release in October, but apparently the first printing sold out in Britain and Australia has to wait as usual.

GROSSET and DUNLAP Publishers have announced a new series for young readers; *JENNY DEAN SCIENCE FICTION MYSTERIES*. The relationship to SF, going by the cover illustrations, does seem rather thin.

Some publishers can learn something from *ARBOR HOUSE*, who after receiving Robert Silverberg's *VALENTINE PONTIFEX* on June 7th had the galleys to correct by July 14th, will have it printed in August and on sale in September. Pretty good going, but they are just proving it can be done.

*The Photographs on this page all courtesy SF Chronicle.*

## AUTHORS & Other People In the NEWS

FRANK HERBERT has turned in the fifth dune novel, *HERETICS OF DUNE*, to Putnam. It is 200,000 words long in manuscript, but he planned to cut it to 180,000. "It's about the evolution and the devolution of the Bene Gesserit; about a pentultimate ghola, Duncan Idaho; about descendants of the Atreides who are now servants of the Bene Gesserit. It takes place long after the famine times and the scattering", said Herbert.

He added that he would like to do some short story writing and that another Dune book is possible. "I've left the door open", he said,



Frank Herbert

Michael Whelan

Hugo winning artist MICHAEL WHELAN broke his right wrist in karate class. It has put him behind with current work.

GENE WOLFE'S non-fiction volume, *THE CASTLE OF THE OTTER*, published by the Zeising Brothers and virtually sold out on publication, is to be published by the US SF Book Club. Wolfe recently completed a course at Unimation, making him a licensed novice robotist.

Tom Disch and John Clute are planning a critical work on Gene Wolfe's "Book of the New Sun" series.

ARTHUR C. CLARKE'S project, the Arthur C. Clarke Centre for Modern Technologies, is due to be inaugurated in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in October. The centre to which Clarke gave \$25,000 of his Marconi Prize Award, is receiving further support from US scientists and business leaders. The aim of the foundation is to share Western technology with developing countries, by helping to recruit teachers and find equipment for them. Clarke will be visiting Washington to actually accept the Marconi Award and England to attend the "1984 Conference".

ARTHUR C. CLARKE wrote his last novel, 2010: *A SPACE ODYSSEY*, on his computer. The story was transmitted to New York via satellite. Revised sections were also sent by phone and the whole process was cheaper and faster than using a courier.

L. RON HUBBARD'S novel *BATTLEFIELD EARTH* made the bestseller lists in the USA in August, despite the fact that it has been on sale for nine months. This unusual happening is no doubt due to the efforts of Hubbard's personal publicists, Author Services. They have continued to spend a lot of money and effort in publicising the book, but N.E.L. in the UK found them difficult to work with and have cancelled their contract to publish the book, even though they had already done galleys.



WILLIAM SHATNER figured in the recent disastrous fire at the Paramount film studios. He helped save the set of STAR TREK III from the fire, which did destroy all of Paramount's old town. Three months work had gone into the \$400,000 set for STAR TREK III, and Shatner said, "There was no way I was going to let it all go up in smoke in one afternoon."

Australian actress DAME JUDITH ANDERSON, has been persuaded by LEONARD NIMOY to appear in STAR TREK III. Nimoy himself will also be in the film. The producer HARVE BENNETT said that they hoped to pull off a few surprises in the film. The series seems set to continue indefinitely. Shooting on the third film started late August.

Despite previous reports, an actor named COLIN BAKER will take over from PETER DAVISON as DR WHO, not BRIAN BLESSED.

NIGHTMARES, a four part occult anthology movie, which was made for NBC TV last year, is being given theatrical release. It was directed by Joseph Sargent from a script by Christopher Crowe and will be released by Universal.

Walter Hill, who has just completed the filming of the futuristic STREETS OF FIRE for Universal, replaced John Landis on DICK TRACY. Landis developed the Universal-Paramount co-production, but has withdrawn due to being indicted on three accounts of involuntary manslaughter in connection with the deaths on the set of TWILIGHT ZONE. Warren Beatty has been mentioned as a possible lead for DICK TRACY, which would increase the films budget beyond the present \$18 million.

F&SF associated TV shows coming up in the new season in the USA include: MR SMITH, about a talking orang-utan with a high IQ, played by CJ of ANY WHICH WAY BUT LOOSE fame; MANIMAL, featuring two crime fighters, one of whom can change himself into various were-creatures. This one is from producer Glen Larson; WHIZ KIDS features teen age crimefighters who use computers; another Glen Larson production, AUTOMAN, which stars Desi Arnez Jr. as a "Tron-like" android working for the police, is also on the ABC line up. CBS has a similar series on the way called PROTOTYPE.

A two part sf films was screened on NBC TV in May called simply V. The story dealt with the invasion of Earth by Nazi type lizards, who come to steal our water. It sounds bad and the critics apparently panned it, but the viewers loved it and it was one of the highest rated shows of the season. The network considered turning it into a series, but at over \$1 million per episode, they

decided a series of movies made for TV would be more practical. They are going ahead with a six-hour sequel to be seen in two-increments. The original left a lot of loose ends and the new film will pick up where the first left off.

Harlan Ellison fans will be delighted to hear that his screenplay of Asimov's I, ROBOT is among properties to be developed in a deal by producer Ted Kotchhoff in association with Warner Brothers. Kotchhoff's credits include FIRST BLOOD, SPLIT IMAGE and THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ.

Universal will distribute two ambitious fantasy films in the USA. LEGEND, a \$30 million epic romance set in medieval times, with extensive special effects, will be directed by Ridley Scott (ALIEN, BLADERUNNER, THE DUELLISTS), from a screenplay by William Hjortsberg, on mainly English locations. Monty Python's Terry Gilliam will direct a film tentatively titled BRAZIL. He wrote the screen play in collaboration with Tom Stoppard, described as "an Orwellian love story set in 1984".

Arnold (CONAN) Schwarzenegger will star in TERMINATOR, a film that has been announced by Orion Pictures and Hemdale Group and described as a futuristic action film. James Cameron will direct. Not to be confused with the above is EXTERMINATOR, a futuristic avenger film starring Robert Ginty, from the Cannon Group.

Despite maximum security before its release in Britain, a print of RETURN OF THE JEDI was stolen from a seaside cinema within days of the films release. Soon after pirate video copies were on sale for £25 or for hire at £1.50. A reward has been offered for information. £1,006,081 was taken at 66 theatres in the first seven days of the films release in Britain.

THE RETURN OF THE JEDI has been breaking all the records since its release on the 24th of May, which was the same release date as the first two Star Wars films. \$100 million was taken in 23 days, which was one record broken.

SUPERMAN III is currently screening in the USA, but it is not receiving great reviews and the attendances are not marvelous either. Meanwhile SUPERGIRL was being shot in England starring newcomer 19 year old Helen Slater. Her parents are played by Mia Farrow and Simon Ward, with other parts being played by Peter O'Toole, Brenda Vaccaro, Marc McClure, Peter Cook, Faye Dunaway, and Maureen Teefy. Jeannot Szwarc (Somewhere In Time) is directing, from a screenplay by David Odell.

The second Conan movie, CONAN, KING OF THIEVES, starring again Arnold Schwarzenegger, is to be directed by Richard Fleischer and is expected to be released by Universal in the spring of 1984.

DOUGLAS ADAMS has been in Los Angeles working on a movie adaption of THE HITCH-HIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY. He said that he intends to keep tight control of the Hitch-Hiker's properties. It is not a financial proposition to do any more radio productions and he will not let anybody else do them. However if the right project comes along he would not rule another radio production out.

The record company incidentally blamed Adams for the cancellation of the third record album of the BBC radio series of Hitch-hiker's Guide.

Jonathan Sanger, producer of the film THE ELEPHANT MAN paid \$10,000 down against a purchase price of \$150,000 and 2% of the profits for film rights to Marion Zimmer Bradley's THE MISTS OF AVALON. Scott Meredith represented Ms Bradley in the deal.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS was originally made as a film by Roger Corman in 1960, and this horror-comedy became something of a cult classic. A Broadway musical was a hit and is due to open in London on October 12th. Now it's back to the screen again, and this time in 3D.

GARY KURTZ, the producer of various fantasy & sf films including STAR WARS and DARK CRYSTAL, is currently involved with a sequel to the WIZARD OF OZ for Walt Disney Productions, tentatively titled RETURN TO OZ, based on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th books by L. Frank Baum. It will be shot in England, with lavish special effects, but it will not be a musical. Shooting is expected to begin early in 1984.

Another Kurtz project is a film of Windsor McKay's "Little Nemo in Slumberland" comic strip, to be simply called NEMO. This animated feature has a script by Ray Bradbury and will combine Japanese and American animation styles. A third project is THE THIEF, which is an animated feature that Richard Williams has been working on for 17 years. His dream project. Kurtz intended to give a presentation on these films at Constellation World Convention this month.

JIM HENSON has been working on another Muppet film, THE MUPPETS IN MANHATTAN. After the success of DARK CRYSTAL, which made approximately \$50 million in the USA alone, Henson is working on another creature film, to differentiate from a Muppet film, which will use the technology learned in the making of DARK CRYSTAL. It will not be a sequel.

CHRISTOPHER REEVE will most likely star in a fourth SUPERMAN film, and it is rumored that Dolly Parton will be the villain. (Villainess?)

Steven Spielberg is directing the new Indiana Jones film, INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DEATH. His company, Amblin' Productions, are due to start filming GREMLINS, under the direction of Joe Dante, who did one of the TWILIGHT ZONE segments. This company is also planning to film LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, with Martin Scorsese directing.

Disney Studios are in another hole following write offs on BLACK HOLE and TRON, they were expected to do the same with SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES. It went reasonably well during it's first week of release, but the following week's trend looked bad. It cost \$22 million plus the publicity costs, but \$15 million was expected to be the write off figure, which would be reduced by later income.

In comparison, the costs of film production in Australia can be relatively low. MAN OF FLOWERS, one of the films that figured in the recent Australian Film Institute Awards, cost less than \$1 million.



The film of 2010: ODDSSEY TWO, from the Arthur C. Clarke book, will be made by M.G.M./U.A., despite the controversy that was raised when producer Julia Philips, who claimed she talked Clarke into writing the book, went to 20th Century Fox. She claimed that she took the rights with her to Fox, when she left MGM. The film will go into production, this year for a 1984 release date.

Handmade Films, the British company headed by former Beatle, George Harrison and some of the Monty Python gang, has listed HIERO'S JOURNEY among its film projects. This adaption of Sterling Lanier's novel, is budgeted at \$10 million. Handmade's previous films included THE LIFE OF BRIAN and TIME BANDITS.

A three hour telefilm is part of the emphasis on things nuclear on American TV recently. THE DAY AFTER, directed by Nicholas Meyer (Time After Time, Star Trek II; Wrath of Khan), portrays Kansas city after an atomic bomb hits it. NBC are producing DOOMSDAY RUN, which deals with the problem of dealing with nuclear waste.

Tri-Star, a new company formed recently by CBS, Columbia Pictures and Home Box Office cable TV, announced an adaption of Talbot Mundy's JIMGRIM. It will be scripted by Philip Kaufman, who will also direct. He directed INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS and THE RIGHT STUFF, the forthcoming film on the true story of the American astronauts. JIMGRIM will start production soon and be released in 1985. An untitled sf film is also slated by the Tri-Star company.

The heroine of the film BEASTMASTER and the last Charlie's Angel, TANYA ROBERTS, has been cast as Sheena, in SHEENA, QUEEN OF THE JUNGLE. Based of course on the movie serial and comic strip of the same name.

MGM/UA were on the ball with publicity for WAR GAMES when they gave out free T-shirts and ice creams to people waiting in line to get into see RETURN OF THE JEDI. This did not go down to well with theatre owners, particularly since it is rumored that Lucasfilm had forced them to hand over a percentage of the concession stand sales to them. Theatre owners in the US rely a lot on the candy counter sales, where t-shirts, posters and other things are sold as well as the coke and pop-corn, to make a profit. This trend has also hit Australian theatres in a big way recently.

Veteran hollywood actor Robert Preston will play an intergalactic mercenary recruiter who comes to Earth, in the Lorimar - Universal production THE LAST STARFIGHTER.

THE HAUNTING PASSION is a two hour TV movie starring Jane Seymour and Gerald McRaney, about a woman with a ghostly lover.

The Paramount film THE KEEP, written and directed by Michael Mann, has been delayed again. The problems have been mainly related to special effects, following the death of sfx supervisor Wally Veevers. It is now hoped that the the film will be released before Christmas.

Showtime cable TV has commissioned a Robir Hood movie that will include the heavy use of magic and sorcery.

One of the puppets in the Gerry Anderson series TERRAHAWKS, Mary Faulconer, originally had what was considered to be a too large and too sexy plastic bust, and was destroyed and replaced at considerable cost.

A stage production of Raymond Briggs's comic strip book WHEN THE WIND BLOWS, adapted from the BBC radio play, opened in April, but was not well received by the critics. The story deals with the nuclear destruction of Britain.

A new book on horror films is due for publication by Proteus publishers in England. The book, NIGHTMARE MOVIES by Kim Newman, who is a reviewer for the British Film Institute, covers films from 1968 on, which is about the time that most other studies leave off, says the author. Newman has signed a contract for other film books including FEMMES FATALES, 30 SEMINAL MOVIES and two other as yet undecided titles. Writing NIGHTMARE MOVIES was not a great deal of trouble Newman said, "It's having to watch all those awful films I thought I'd avoided which is the pain," he said.

London's gruesome horror museum, The London Dungeon, which is situated in one of the dank dark and gruesome parts of London, has launched it's first "Terrorphone" service. You can dial a number and hear a story read by The London Dungeon's Voice of Doom. If the idea is successful, other lines will be set up in other parts of the country. What next? No, they already have those!

Two BBC-TV plays co-written and directed by Alan Gibson, THE FLIPSIDE OF DOMINICK HIDE and ANOTHER FLIP FOR DOMINICK HIDE, received more audience reaction than any other BBC plays in recent years. They feature a time traveller from the future. A London Westend musical is planned based on the TV plays.

Two horror films on Video were ordered destroyed by London Magistrates last year, in the first case of its kind. The Director of Public Prosecutions was instrumental in bringing the action against "Driller Killer" and a Tobe Hooper film "Death Trap".

TV Channel 4 in Britain is to screen a selection of ten of the films included in Michael Medved's book THE GOLDEN TURKEY AWARDS. Medved's comments will precede the screenings.

The BBC has been running a series of midnight horror films on it's 2nd channel through summer. A tribute to the Universal classics of the '30s. A similar programme on local channels would be popular again.

## DUNE — FULL CAST AND CREDITS

Actress LINDA HUNT, who won the Best Supporting actress award at the recent Australian Film Institute Awards, for her performance as a news photographer in the YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY, has a supporting role in the film DUNE. She plays Shadout Mapes. The rest of the cast and crew are as follows: Paul - Kyle MacLachlan; Jessica - Francesca Annis (KRULL); Duke Leto - Jurgen Prochnow; The Emperor - Jose Ferrer; Rev. Mother Helen - Sian Philips; Thurfir - Freddie Jones; Gurney - Aldo Ray; Dr Yueh - Dean Stockwell; Duncan Idaho - Richard Jordan; Baron Harkonnen - Kenneth MacMillan; Feyd Rautha - Sting; Rabban - Paul Smith;

Piter - Brad Dourif; Irulan - Anne-Louise Lambert; Stilgar - Everett McGill; Dr Kynes - Max Von Sydow; Chani - Sean Young; Alia - Alicia Witt; Rev. Mother Omelto - Silvano Mangano; Jamis - Judd Omen. Some excellent casting there.

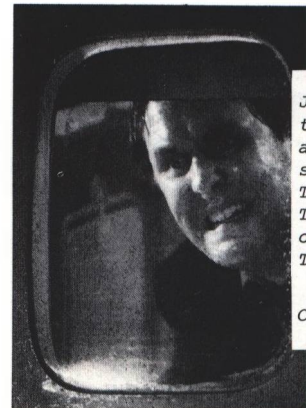
Ron Miller, who has been doing art work for the film, told SF Chronicle that all filming had been completed. The crew included: Director/Screenplay - David Lynch (Elephant Man); Producer - Raffaella Dilaurentiis (Conan); Production Designer - Tony Masters (2001); Editor - Tony Gibbs (Ragtime); Special Effects - Kit West (Raiders of the Lost Ark, The Empire Strikes Back); Special Visual Effects - John Dykstra (Star Wars, Fire Fox); Special Mechanical Effects - Carlos Rambaldi (ET); Costume Design - Bob Ringwood (Excalibur); Cinematographer - Freddie Francis (The French Lieutenant's Woman). A very impressive line up, who should do justice to this long awaited film of a very popular book.

OK! We did give part of this information last issue, but we thought it was of particular interest to give the full details on this sf film event. Ed.

## F AND SF FILM AWARDS

The Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films presented its tenth annual Saturn Awards at a ceremony in Hollywood on June 30th, 1983. The winners were: BEST SF FILM - E.T.; BEST FANTASY FILM - THE DARK CRYSTAL; BEST HORROR FILM - POLTERGEIST; BEST LOW BUDGET FILM - EATING RAUL; BEST INTERNATIONAL FILM - THE ROAD WARRIOR (MAD MAX II); BEST ANIMATED FILM - THE SECRET OF NIMH; BEST ACTOR - William Shatner in STAR TREK II; BEST ACTRESS - Sandahl Bergman in CONAN; BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR - Richard Lynch in THE SWORD AND THE SORCERER; BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS - Zelda Rubenstein in POLTERGEIST; BEST DIRECTOR - Nicholas Meyer for STAR TREK II; BEST MUSIC - John Williams, E.T.; BEST SPECIAL EFFECTS, Carlo Rambaldi, Dennis Muren, E.T.; BEST COSTUMES - Elois Jenssen, Rosanna Norton, TRON; BEST MAKE UP - Dorothy Peral, POLTERGEIST; BEST SCREENPLAY, Melissa Matheson, E.T.; BEST POSTER ART - John Alvin, E.T.; LIFE CAREER AWARD - Martin B. Cohen; POSTHUMOUS AWARD - Buster Crabbe; SERVICE AWARD - Dr Robert Karns and Louis Ramsey; PRESIDENT'S AWARD - Elsa Lanchester.

Films seen here recently included: TWILIGHT ZONE : THE MOVIE directed by John Landis, Steven Spielberg, Joe Dante and George Miller. Four stories which in our opinion did not equal the best of



John Lithgow in the "Nightmare at 20,000 Feet" sequence from TWILIGHT ZONE THE MOVIE, based on the original TV episode.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.

the old TV series. The most effective story was the George Miller segment, which was based on one of the old TV episodes, "Nightmare at 20,000 Feet". The stories represented one aspect of the series, which was not the aspect we preferred. PSYCHO II is also still running in Melbourne, but we have no inclination to see this film after hearing the star Anthony Perkin's comments, in that he did not like the author of the original "Psycho" novel, Robert Bloch's presentation of the main character Norman. Giving that reason for not using Bloch's second novel as the basis for the second film. KRULL, starring Ken Marshall is also currently screening and although it is a purely comic strip adventure, it is an enjoyable spectacle. We believe it is the first film to combine sf and fantasy, spaceships and swordplay. Not by any means the best that we can expect from the genre, but a cut above CONAN, BEASTMASTER and THE SWORD AND THE SORCEROR.

Another film screening in Melbourne is BLUE THUNDER, starring Roy Scheider. The sophisticated electronics of the helicopter featured in the movie is worth the price of admission, but besides that and the spectacular explosions and other effects, Scheider is at his cool calculating best and Malcolm McDowell is outstanding as the egotistical villain. A movie that is a little bit more than just a spectacle.

SHAYNE McCORMACK of Galaxy Bookshop in Sydney, managed to wangle a preview to RETURN OF THE JEDI : STAR WARS 3 and she has kindly sent us a review as follows:

#### RETURN OF THE JEDI

Reviewed by Shayne McCormack

On a typical Monday evening at 5.10, I was behind the desk contemplating closing up for the night when one of my customers came in and asked me if I'd like to see RETURN OF THE JEDI.

"Ask me if I want to win Lotto?" came the joking reply, and the customer proceeded to hand me a double pass to JEDI.

"When is it on?" I asked, shocked. "Tonight," he answered. "At 5.30."

All this means that I have seen JEDI, but in such a state of croggled amazement, that this review may be a little haphazard. Twenty minutes isn't a great deal of time to psych oneself into seeing a film one has waited almost three years for.

I'm a STAR WARS fan. For me, that film had everything that means entertainment to me - a fluffy plot, lots of action, easily identifiable stereotypes and a happy ending. It is still my favourite film and until something better comes along, always will be. (I lay no claim to having great taste in film.) Although a little disappointed in EMPIRE STRIKES BACK, I realised that it did have its place in the STAR WARS universe and film line and so was not truly unhappy with it. I had waited with near breathless anticipation for the third film, since it had much to tie up to conclude the trilogy.

The film runs, so I am told, for 2 hours and 13 minutes. It has enough special effects to make three normal films

and enough action to keep even the most listless viewer awake. It is, if anything, too fast - whether this is deliberate or not I'm not sure. It is much too fast to take in all in one viewing so I suppose there could be a deliberate plan on the part of the creators of the film to force fans back for another viewing. My own mental state ensured the necessity for seeing it again for that reason, apart from the fact that I'd see it again anyhow, for sheer pleasure's sake.



I did enjoy it. It would have had to have been truly awful for me not to. However, it doesn't rate 10 out of 10 and there is no way I can say I liked it more than SW. Placed on a scale with EMPIRE it is an improvement, but the film does have faults. To be fully aware of specific faults I will need to see it again, but I do have enough sensitivity to know that I was not entirely satisfied.

It is very much Luke's film. He is deliberately central to the film's storyline, and the other human characters tend to be little more than window dressing to his story. They are alive, they take part in various forms of intense activity, but his fate, in connection with his father and the Emperor, is what this film is all about.

Han Solo fans may find themselves unhappy with the way the character behaves in this film, and as much as I like Harrison Ford, I believe much of this is his own fault. He clearly cares little for the character now, this comes through in his handling of it. Certainly the character is not as important as it was in EMPIRE, but a dedicated actor can do much with a role if he truly wants to, and I do believe that Ford no longer cares for Han Solo. The lines were delivered without the jaunty panache evident in the previous films and the spirit seemed lacking. Pity, Solo is a nice character.

Leia is no longer the uppity little Princess of Star Wars...she is an older and wiser woman, still gutsy and strong, but somehow lessened in Luke's shadow.

The robots, on the other hand have, if anything, increased their part in the story...at least it hasn't been lessened. I don't know that I truly like that - it seems to me that there is a lesson here, or at least a pointer to how films can progress. When robots start to mean more to a story than people...

Unlike EMPIRE, JEDI tends to start in one place and continue, more or less undisturbed, to the end. There is less of the chop-and-change double plot lining of the second film, mainly because the characters tend to stay together for the bulk of the film. Luke goes briefly to Degobar, then rejoins the others, and stays with them till the last half hour of the film, when the final confrontation occurs. This is where the action becomes very intense - the culminating battle between the Alliance and the Empire is taking place at the same time as Luke's own battle with the Dark Side of the Force, personified by the Emperor and his father. One's viewing attention is then also divided - the viewer, if he or she is so emotionally inclined - is torn between what is happening during the battle to the other characters, and what is happening to Luke on the partially built Death Star. As a means of building tension, it is very successful.

As EMPIRE was a different style of film from STAR WARS - A NEW HOPE, so JEDI is also different and for much the same reasons. A NEW HOPE established the Universe, gave us the basic situation of good versus evil, put barely real people in the setting and let them react to the situations as their characters would. EMPIRE developed the characters a little more, made them a little more real, and so took away much of the fantasy element. JEDI succeeds in developing at least one character very nicely (Luke) while changing the others very little. It would have been hard to do otherwise, I suppose, in just two hours, without sacrificing a lot of the action and spfx, but I would have liked to have seen it attempted.

People have already said that the ending ranks high on the "corn" list, and I suppose that is true. However, it would have been hard to avoid, since so many emotional issues were decided at the end and in the situation as it was it would have been difficult to be blasé. I personally would have liked the final 'appearance' scene with Luke to have been handled a little less... obviously... sentimental than it was, but I can understand why it was done and so I am not overly disturbed by it. A lot of people will be, however...it does lay the old violins and hearts on a bit strong. Still, the end of a NEW HOPE was just as corny in its own way. Possibly it jars so much because JEDI lacks the fantasy atmosphere of the first film...is more truly science fiction. Magical moments tend to hit one between the eyes after two hours of very technical looking science fiction. (I'm sorry, Mr Lucas, but this film really is science fiction, and saying it isn't doesn't make it so.)

Williams' music carries on much as before....jaunty, emotional, perfectly suited for the occasion. He has produced very little new or outstandingly different stuff for this film, but wasn't really required to. The Luke-Leia theme is pretty, the Lepti Nek Star Wars disco music is abominable, and Ewok celebration music delightfully silly. Aside from that it is much of a muchness. The only point where the music intruded for me was during the climactic battle



between Luke and Vader when human voices were added to the music. I say 'intruded' because I became aware of the music. I believe I was intended to at this point and although I believe that music should not intrude onto the action, this particular section was so dramatic anyhow that being aware of the music only tended to heighten it.

All this means that I liked RETURN OF THE JEDI, but with definite reservations. I don't know that I really expected the film producers to come up with another NEW HOPE...that would have been asking a bit much. My main disappointment, I suppose, is that they obviously opted to produce a film of such technical amazement as to blast the spfx fans out of their seats, while leaving those who like a little personal reality a bit cold. It is always possible to sit on the sidelines and say "it could have been done better" without suggesting just how. I do believe, however, that a little more concern for the characters, and a little less technical brilliance, would have turned a good film into a great one.



I have not given precise plot outline, since many people don't want to know about a film before they see it (though with these films that's a bit hard to avoid). I had only looked briefly at the novel before seeing the film, so much of it was a surprise to me. Since most people will be aware of major elements anyhow (we all knew there would have to be a Final Confrontation and probably a big battle as well) reading the book is possibly a good idea, so that the pace of the film doesn't drown you with its speed and bewildering lashings of aliens, sets and technical window dressing. It is really a very simple plot line when you dig right down to it and quite unpredictable. This is really its own similarity to A NEW HOPE.

I will be interested to see whether my opinions change on a second viewing. And a third. And a fourth. And so on.

The Force appears to still be with Mr Lucas. However, it's the Force of deliberate engineering now, and not the magical mythical fantasy of days gone by.

Thank you for that very comprehensive review Shayne. By the time all our readers are reading this, RETURN OF THE JEDI should be screening at their local theatre. Ed.

# PUBLISH AND BE DAMNED!

SCANDALOUS REPORTS, EMBARRASSING MOMENTS, CRITICAL REMARKS AND INNUENDOS in the SCIENCE FICTION WORLD

ISAAC ASIMOV is we hear not too popular with a certain British convention, due to his somewhat late advice that he would not be able to attend. However, reading between the lines we think SEACON '84 may have been a bit eager. Asimov did say that he would attend as Guest of Honour 'health permitting', which did give him an out, but although SEACON '84 could be forgiven for being a little eager in this case, we think they should not have counted their chickens....Rumour has it that Philip Jose Farmer has been asked to replace Asimov. Other guests, or authors merely attending, the publicity it appears does not make it clear, are Christopher Priest and French author Pierre Barbet.

When reading Dave Langford's comments in his British news magazine *Ansible*, we wonder that some people he refers to do not sue him. Well actually they have, haven't they? Seriously though we suggest you subscribe to *Ansible* and then you can get all the lowdown dirty details on goings on in Britain, as well as others parts of the sf world.

Chris Priest reported in *Ansible* that Kingsley Amis was amongst the people who turned up for the inaugural meeting of the SF Supper Club, at the Royal Connaught public house in Holborn. It must have been a great success, as people were ringing up all the next day to apologise for things.

A fan in Sheffield, England has found a novel way of making a few bob. He asks authors for their autographs or apparently any short bits of writing by any one in the field, even Chris Priest and then sells them at inflated prices. ASFN has a small fortune in it's files and we do need the money....

The *Montreal Gazette* recently devoted a section to profiling author Donald Kingsbury. The article was careful to note that using the term "sci-fi" for science fiction is tantamount to calling an "illegal alien" a "wetback".

PAUL PREUSS we think expressed the feelings of all David Hartwell's friends and associates in the sf field, in the gesture he made in *Locus*. He took an advert featuring his book due to be published in the *Timescape* series, *BROKEN SYMMETRIES*, and he thanked Hartwell for seeing it into print.

It is reported that Gollancz were also offered Hubbard's *BATTLEFIELD EARTH*, but dropped it like a hot scone when they realised they had to deal with Authors Services. (See report page 5.)

DONALD KINGSBURY was awarded the Compton Crook Award for his Hugo nominated novel *COURTSHIP RITE*. This award is in honour of the man who wrote as Stephan Tall. The award, accompanied by a \$500 cheque, was presented by Mrs Crook at Balticon.



SF Chronicle



Brian Aldiss with his John W.Campbell Award trophy.

BRIAN ALDISS was presented with the JOHN W.CAMPBELL MEMORIAL AWARD for his novel *HELLICONIA SPRING*. The award was presented at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, by English professor Stephen Goldman, during the two day "Campbell Conference on the Teaching, Writing and Illustration of Science Fiction", held mid July this year. The runner up was Michael Bishop with *NO ENEMY BUT TIME*.

Goldman said that *HELLICONIA SPRING* was a book "in the finest tradition of world building. Its alien society, the natural laws that govern its climate, and its natural environment would make Campbell proud." The next day Aldiss gave an hour long description of the creation of *Helliconia* and a brief preview of the other volumes to come.

AL WILLIAMSON and A.E.VAN VOGT were presented with the Jules Verne Awards at the Third Annual Presentation, at Skycon in Asheville, North Carolina on the 24th of May. Van Vogt for Lifetime Achievement in SF and Williamson for Lifetime Achievement in Comic Art.

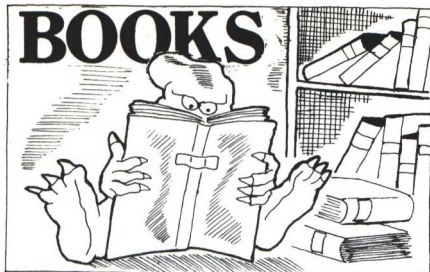
TERRY CARR, who has been mostly and unjustly, overlooked in the awards area, was presented with the Milford Award for Lifetime Achievement recently. The award was not endorsed by the Milford Mafia, which is a group of authors who get together periodically, but was presented at the Lloyd Eaton Conference held in April. Perhaps a little premature, as we are sure to see a lot more achievement in the field from Mr Carr, but well deserved.

RAY NELSON, author of *PROMETHEUS MAN*, received the JACK LONDON AWARD for distinguished literary work at the recent California Writer's Conference at Mills College, Oakland, California. Nelson is the first sf author so honored.

CLARE BELL author of *RATHA'S CREATURE*, a Margaret K.McElderry Book published by Atheneum, shared the 1983 PEN Book Award with Zilpha Keatley, author of *BIRDS OF SUMMER*. A sequel to Bell's novel, *CLAN GROUND*, is currently in progress.



# BOOKS



## SELECTED PUBLISHERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Despite what we said last issue of the NEWS, the 2nd issue of the SF & F CHECKLIST is not out and due to current problems it will be delayed for some time. We are trying to rationalize the whole of our efforts relating to the publishing of lists. It is not a matter of doing what we want to do, but what we have time to do and what we can afford. The most important thing is to tell our readers what new books are being published, to provide a minimum amount of information about these books.

Starting this issue we are giving a list of titles, by author, of important new titles and new editions due or announced for publication in the near future. The details will be kept to a minimum. We still want to keep publishing the F&SF CHECKLIST, but we are so far behind now it is becoming a formidable task to cover all the books that have been out since the first issue. However we will try. In the future we intend to include a section in the NEWS, which will give full details of all new books and drop the publication of the CHECKLIST.

A SELECTION OF BOOKS RECENTLY PUBLISHED OR DUE OUT BETWEEN NOW AND EARLY '84.

ADAMS Robert A WOMAN OF THE HORSECLANS Horseclans #12 Signet FE PB

ALDISS Brian HELLICONIA SUMMER SF/N FE HC Jonathan Cape 2nd volume. HELLICONIA SPRING NE F/PB SF/N Granada 1st Volume

ANDERSON Poul CONFLICT SF/N FE PB TOR  
& DICKSON Gordon HOKA! SF/C FE TPB A new collection of Hoka stories from Wallaby Books. TOR will do pb later.

TIME PATROLMAN SF/N FE PB TOR

ANTHONY Piers DRAGON ON A PEDESTAL FE PB Del Rey A new Xanth novel  
INCARNATIONS OF IMMORTALITY BOOK ONE: ON A PALE HORSE FN FE HC First of new series of philosophical fantasies.  
JUXTAPOSITION F/N NE PB Granada edition due about December.

ASIMOV Isaac CREATIONS The Quest For Origins in Story and Science Edited by Asimov, George Zebrowski and Martin H.Greenberg. FE HC Crown  
FOUNDATION'S EDGE NE F/PB Del Rey  
ISAAC ASIMOV'S MAGICAL WORLDS OF FANTASY Edited by Asimov, Martin H. Greenberg and Charles G.Waugh. FE PB F/A Signet  
THE ROBOTS OF DAWN FE HC SF/N Doubleday A new Elijah Baley novel.  
THE UNION CLUB MYSTERIES Myst/C FE HC Doubleday  
THE WINDS OF CHANGE & OTHER STORIES SF/C NE HC Granada  
ISAAC ASIMOV PRESENTS THE GREAT SF #10 (1948) Edited by Asimov and M.H. Greenberg DAW FE PB SF/A

ASPRIN Robert Lynn and ABBEY Lynn Eds.



THE FACE OF CHAOS FE PB F/A #5 in "Thieves World".

BALLARD J.G. HELLO AMERICA SF/N NE F/PB Granada

BISCHOFF David MANDALA SF/N FE PB Berkley

BISHOP Michael NO ENEMY BUT TIME SF/N NE PB Sphere

BOVA Ben & DICKSON Gordon R. GREMLINS GO HOME SF/N NE PB TOR

BOYER Elizabeth THE WIZARD AND THE WARLORD F/N FE PB Del Rey

BRADLEY Marion Zimmer THENDARA HOUSE SF/N FE PB DAW A new Darkover novel.

BRIN David STARTIDE RISING SF/N FE PB Bantam An outstanding new novel featuring humans and genetically changed dolphins on an alien world.

BRUNNER John THE CRUCIBLE OF TIME SF/N FE HC Del Rey A saga of an alien race's progress through time and space.

CHANT Joy THE HIGH KINGS Illustrated Celtic legends HC Bantam US and Allen & Unwin UK. Art work by George Sharp. An outstanding work that will prove popular with all illustrated book lovers and in particular those interested in the Arthurian legends.  
WHEN VOIHA WAKES F/N FE TPB Allen & Unwin. Also published by Bantam.

CHERRYH C.J. FORTY THOUSAND IN GEHENNA F/N FE HC Phantasia. Trade & deluxe.  
THE TREE OF SWORDS AND JEWELS F/N FE PB DAW

CLARKE Arthur C. 2010: ODYSSEY TWO SF/N NE FPB Granada

CONEY Michael THE CELESTIAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE Houghton Mifflin SF/N FE HC 1st of the two part "The Song of Earth" novel.

COOPER Susan SEAWARD F/N-J FE HC Argo/Atheneum.

COPPER Basil THE HOUSE OF THE WOLF HF/N FE HC Arkham House

CROWLEY John LITTLE,BIG F/N NE PB Methuen UK and Bantam USA

DALMAS John & MARTIN Carl TOUCH THE STARS SF/N FE PB

DONALDSON Stephen R. GILDEN-FIRE F/Story NE HC William Collins

ELGIN Suzette Haden THE GRAND JUBILEE ScFa/N FE PB Berkley 2nd in the "Ozark" trilogy.

ELLISON Harlan AGAIN DANGEROUS VISIONS DANGEROUS VISIONS SF/As Edited by Ellison NES TPBs Berkley  
AN EDGE IN MY VOICE NF/C TPB Star-blaze

FARMER Philip Jose A BARNSTORMER IN OZ F/N NE PB Berkley. 1st small pb.  
GODS OF RIVERWORLD SF/N FE HC G.P.Putnam The last of the "River-world" series.

GENTLE Mary GOLDEN WITCHBREED SF/N FE HC Gollancz. An outstanding new novel set on a richly imagined world.

GEROLD David THE WAR AGAINST CHTORR Volume 1: A MATTER FOR MEN SF/N FE HC Set on a future decimated Earth.

HALDEMAN Joe WORLDS APART SF/N FE HC Viking Sequel to "Worlds"

NEBULA AWARD STORIES 17 Edited by Haldeman. FE HC SF/A Holt,Rinehart.

HARRIS Geraldine PRINCE OF THE GODBORN: SEVEN CITADELS Part One F/N-J NE TPB Unicorn/Allen & Unwin

CHILDREN OF THE WIND: SEVEN CITADELS Part Two F/N J

THE DEAD KINGDOM : SEVEN CITADELS Part Three F/N J  
These three novels have been published in hc by MacMillan UK and in Greenwillow USA. Allen & Unwin will do the three in their Unicorn pb series.  
THE SEVENTH KINGDOM is we believe a 4th in the series from MacMillan.

HEINLEIN Robert JOB: A Comedy of Justice A new SF novel, due out '84.

HERBERT Frank & RANSOM Bill THE LAZARUS EFFECT SF/N NE HC Gollancz

ING Dean SINGLE COMBAT SF/N FE TPB TOR

JAKUBOWSKI Maxim LANDS OF NEVER F/A FE TPB Edited by Jakubowski for Allen & Unwin's Unicorn series.

KING Stephen PET SEMATARY HF/N FE HC Doubleday USA A new novel from the master of modern horror.

KYLE David A. Z-LENSMAN SF/N FE PB A new novel based on the original "Doc" Smith series.

LANIER Sterling A. MENACE UNDER MARSWOOD SF/N FE PB Del Rey

LEE Tanith ANACKIRE ScFa/N FE PB DAW

MAXWELL Ann DANCER'S ILLUSION SF/N FE PB

McCAFFREY Anne MORETA: DRAGON LADY OF PERN SF/N FE HC Random House USA and Severn House UK. Due for publication late '83. A brand new "Pern" novel.

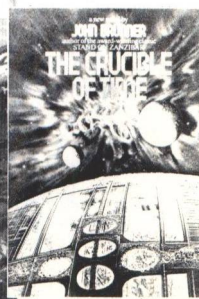
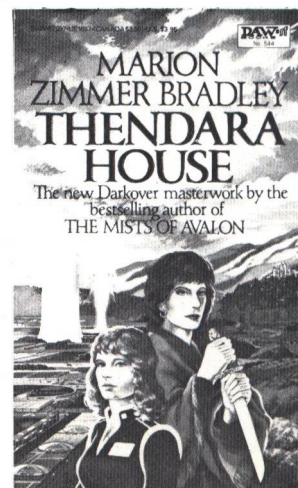
McINTYRE Vonda SUPERLUMINAL SF/N FE HC Houghton Mifflin. An expansion of the highly acclaimed story "Aztecs".

NORWOOD Warren & MYLIUS Ralph THE SEREN CENACLES SF/N FE PB Bantam

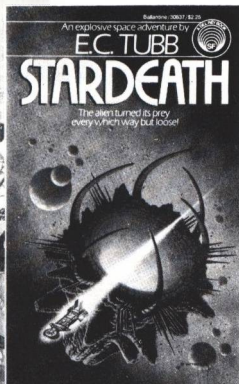
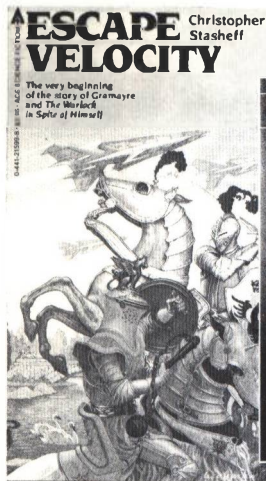
PAXSON Diana L. LADY OF DARKNESS ScFa/N FE PB Timescape. The 2nd part of the story that began with "Lady of Light".

POHL Frederik MIDAS WORLD SF/N HC St Martins Press US and Gollancz UK

PREUSS Paul BROKEN SYMMETRIES SF/N FE HC Timescape A scientific thriller.







PURTILL Richard THE MIRROR OF HELEN  
F/N FE DAW PB A story of Helen of  
Troy, half human, half goddess.

RANDALL Marta SWORD OF WINTER SF/N  
FE HC Timescape

RESNICK Mike TALES OF THE GALACTIC  
MIDWAY #4 : THE BEST ROOTIN' TOOTIN'  
SHOOTIN' GUN-SLINGER IN THE WHOLE  
DAMNED GALAXY SF/N FE PB Signet  
Is that the longest ever sf title?

ROSENBERG Joel THE SLEEPING DRAGON  
Book One of Guardians of the Flame  
F/N FE PB Signet. A fantasy in the  
de Camp style.

ROWLEY Christopher B. THE WAR FOR  
ETERNITY SF/N FE PB Del Rey

RUSS Joanna THE ADVENTURES OF ALYX  
SF/N FE HC Timescape

THE ZANZIBAR CAT C HC Arkham House

SABERHAGEN Fred THE SECOND BOOK OF  
SWORDS F/N FE TPB TOR  
A CENTURY OF PROGRESS SF/N FE PB  
Tor

SAHA Arthur Ed. THE YEARS BEST FANTASY  
STORIES 9 F/A FE PB DAW

SCARBOROUGH Elizabeth BRONWYN'S BANE  
F/N FE PB Bantam

SHELLEY Mary FRANKENSTEIN F/N NE HC  
Illustrated by Berni Wrightson  
Trade and deluxe hard cover editions.  
Dodd Mead publishers.

SHAW Bob ORBITSVILLE DEPARTURE SF/N  
FE HC Gollancz

SHECKLEY Robert DRAMOCLES SF/N  
FE HC Holt, Rinehart & Winston  
An intergalactic soap-opera.

SILVERBERG Robert HOMEFARING SF/N FE  
HC Phantasia Press Deluxe Edition  
only.

FANTASY HALL OF FAME Edited by  
Silverberg FE HC F/A Arbor House

THE LORD OF DARKNESS African Adven-  
ture novel NE HC Gollancz

MAJIPOOR CHRONICLES SF/C NE PB PAN

THE NEBULA AWARDS Edited by Silver-  
berg FE HC SF/A Arbor House

VALENTINE PONTIFEX SF/N FE HC Arbor  
House Trade & Deluxe editions.  
The continuing story of Lord Valentine.

SIMAK Clifford D. WHERE THE EVIL DWELLS  
SF/N NE F/PB Del Rey

SLADEK John TIK TOK SF/N FE HC  
Gollancz Anasty robot story.

SMITH David C. THE FALL OF THE FIRST  
WORLD : SORROWING VENGEANCE F/N FE  
PB TOR

SMITH L.Neil LANDO CALRISSIAN AND THE  
FLAMEWIND OF OSEON SF/N FE PB Del Rey  
A second novel featuring the character  
from the Star Wars films.

SOHL Jerry DEATH SLEEP HF/N FE PB  
Fawcett

SPRUIELL Steven G. THE IMPERATOR PLOT  
SF/N FE HC Doubleday

STASHEFF Christopher ESCAPE VELOCITY  
SF/N FE PB ACE A prequel to the  
"Warlock in Spite of Himself".

STEWART Mary THE WICKED DAY His F/N  
FE HC Hodder & Stoughton UK and  
William Morrow USA. A new Arthurian  
novel featuring Mordred and his  
mother, Morgause.

STONE Charlotte CHEON OF THE WELTANLAND  
Book 1 : THE FOUR WISHES F/N FE PB  
DAW First in a new fantasy series.

SUCHARITKUL Somtow THE THRONE OF MAD-  
NESS SF/N FE PB Timescape.

TEPPER Sheri NECROMANCER NINE  
F/N FE PB ACE A new title by the  
author of "Kings Blood Royal".

TEVIS Walter THE STEPS OF THE SUN  
HC Doubleday NFD

TILLEY Patrick THE AMTRAK WARS Volume  
One: CLOUD WARRIOR SF/N FE PB  
Sphere. First in a new series by the  
author of "Fade-Out".

TREBOR Robert AN XT CALLED STANLEY  
SF/N FE PB DAW An unusual alien  
contact novel.

TUBB E.C. WEB OF SAND Dumarest #20  
NE PB SF/N Arrow

STARDEATH SF/N FE PB Del Rey

VAN SCYOC Sydney DARKCHILD ScFa/N  
NE PB First small pb edition.

VAN VOGT A.E. COMPUTER WORLD SF/N  
FE PB DAW Man against machine in a  
not too distant future.

VANCE Jack CUGEL'S SAGA F/N FE HC  
Timescape A new book featuring  
the character from "Eyes of the Over-  
world".

VARDEMAN Robert E. WORLD OF MAZES  
Cenotaph Road #3 F/N FE PB ACE

VINGE Joan D. THE JOAN D.VINGE OMNIBUS  
SF/ Ns and shorts NE HC Sidgwick  
and Jackson.

WAGNER Karl Edward THE YEAR'S BEST  
HORROR STORIES : Series XI Edited  
by Wagner HF/A FE PB DAW

WALKER Irma PORTAL TO E'WERE SF/N-J  
HC FE Argo/Athenum.

WALTON Evangeline THE SWORD IS FORGED  
F/N FE HC Timescape. Fantasy novel  
based on Greek mythology.

WEBB Sharon EARTHCHILD SF/N-J NE PB  
Bantam. The children of Earth become  
immortal. A second book, EARTH SONG  
has been published in HC, as was the  
first, by Athenum. A third is yet  
to be published.

WELLS H.G. A TREASURY OF H.G.WELLS  
SF/Omnibus HC First release of this  
edition. Octopus Books. Six sf novels

WILDER Cherry THE TAPESTRY WARRIORS  
SF/N FE HC Athenum. A new novel by  
the ex-Australian author, set on the  
same world as "The Luck of Brins  
Five".

WILHELM Kate WELCOME, CHAOS SF/N FE  
HC Houghton Mifflin. Expansion of  
the story "The Winter Beach".

WILLIAMS Paul O. AN AMBUSH OF SHADOWS  
SF/N FE PB Del Rey. The 5th in this  
year's John W.Capmbell Award winner's  
"Pelbar Cycle".

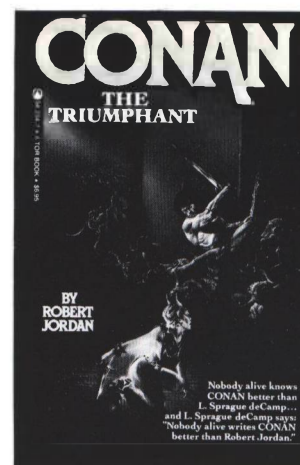
WILLIAMSON Jack MANSEED SF/N NE F/PB  
Del Rey. Superman in space.

WOLFE Gene THE BOOK OF THE NEW SUN  
Volumes 1 & 2 SF/Ns HC NE Sidgwick  
and Jackson. Omnibus volume.

THE CITADEL OF THE AUTARCH Volume 4  
in The Book of the New Sun series.

ZEBROWSKI George THE OMEGA POINT TRIL-  
OGY SF/Ns PB ACE. 1st publication of  
part 3 and 1st edition all in one vol.

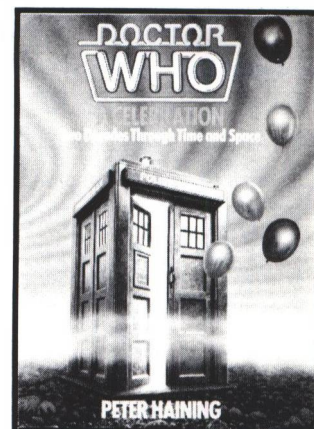
ZELAZNY Roger UNICORN VARIATIONS  
FE HC Timescape NFD



## CONAN

JORDAN Robert CONAN THE TRIUMPHANT  
F/N FE PB TOR

## DR WHO



DICKS Terrance THE ARC OF INFINITY  
FE HC (No date on pb) W.H.Allen

BIDMEAD Christopher CASTROVALVA  
NE F/PB Target

MARTER Ian EARTHSHOCK  
NE F/PB Target

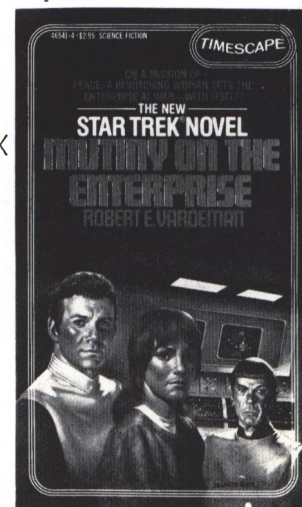
GRIMWADE Peter MAWDRYN UNDEAD  
FE HC W.H.Allen

BBC TV DR WHO ANNUAL 1984  
HC

HAINING Peter DR WHO: A CELEBRATION  
FE HC W.H.Allen. The best book yet  
about the series

HARRIS Mark THE WHO TECHNICAL  
MANUAL HC Published by Severn House  
in Britain and a complete sell out  
for Dents in Australia. A PB edition  
is due from Sphere books.

## STAR TREK





IRWIN Walter & LOVE G.B. THE BEST OF  
TREK #6 FE PB Signet  
VARDEMAN Robert MUTINY ON THE ENTER-  
PRISE SF/N FE PB Timescape  
ASHERMAN Allan A STAR TREK COMPENDIUM  
NF NE F/PB Star  
ROTSLER William STAR TREK II: Short  
Stories W.H.Allan HC and Sparrow PB  
CRISPIN A.C. YESTERDAY'S SON SF/N FE  
PB Timescape

## STAR WARS

ARNELL Gordon THE MAKING OF THE  
RETURN OF THE JEDI NF PB Del Rey  
KASDEN Lawrence & LUCAS George THE ART  
OF THE RETURN OF THE JEDI Ballantine

## J.R.R.TOLKIEN

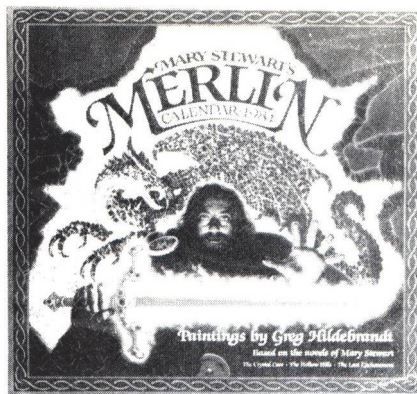
THE BOOK OF LOST TALES PART 1  
A collection of very early writing  
by Tolkien.  
FLIEGER Verlyn MYTH AS MEANING IN  
TOLKIEN'S WORLD NF LC Allen & Unwin  
SPLINTERED LIGHT: LOGOS AND LANGUAGE  
IN TOLKIEN'S WORLD NF LC Eerdmans  
GARLAND Roger THE J.R.R. TOLKIEN  
CALENDAR 1984 Allen & Unwin UK and  
Del Rey USA

## SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY ART

JOHNSON Michael -Art, and TUTTLE Lisa -  
Text. ANGELA'S RAINBOW A series of  
sensual paintings. Paper Tiger TPB  
SERAFINI Luigi CODEX SERAPHINIANUS: A  
VISUAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AN IMAGINARY  
UNIVERSE Abbeville A large, expen-  
sive (\$75 US) and completely indescrib-  
able volume. HC.  
GREEN Michael Discoverer and annotater  
DE HISTORIA ET VERITATE On The  
History and Truth of the Unicorn  
A beautiful addition to the range of  
Unicorn books. Running Press. TPB  
MORRILL Rowena THE FANTASTIC ART OF  
ROWENA MORRILL TPB Pocket Full  
colour reproductions.  
FROUD Brian GOBLINS HC James Fraser  
A new book by the concept artist of  
the film "Dark Crystal". A pop-up book.  
VALLEJO Boris & Doris MIRAGE TPB NE  
New British edition from Paper Tiger  
distributed here by William Collins.  
A collection of full colour erotic  
artwork.  
EDWARDS Malcolm & HOLDSTOCK Robert  
REALMS OF FANTASY TPB Paper Tiger  
A voyage through worlds created by  
Tolkien, Donaldson and others, with  
illustrations by top artists.  
MEYER Susan E. A TREASURY OF GREAT  
CHILDREN'S BOOK ILLUSTRATORS HC  
Abrahams  
TUTTLE Lisa & WOODRUFF Una CATWITCH  
An outstanding childrens story,  
beautifully illustrated by Woodruff.

## CALENDARS FOR 1984

THE BORIS VALLEJO FANTASY CALENDAR  
Workman  
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA CALENDAR  
Book 3 "The Voyage of the Dawn Trader"  
MacMillan USA  
CONAN CALENDAR by Bill Sienkiewicz  
(Publisher not known)  
DISNEY ANIMATION ART CALENDAR  
Abbeville  
FAVOURITE TALES FROM GRIMM CALENDAR  
Art work by Mercer Mayer  
GALAXIES CALENDAR  
Astronomical calendar. Stewart, Tabori  
and Chang.  
THE J.R.R. TOLKIEN CALENDAR  
Artwork by Roger Garland Allen &  
Unwin UK and Del Rey USA



MARY STEWART'S MERLIN CALENDAR  
Illustrated by Greg Hildebrandt  
William Morrow  
MICHAEL HAGUE'S UNICORN CALENDAR  
Holt Rinehart & Winston  
SPACE SHUTTLE CALENDAR  
Landmark Publishers  
STAR TREK CALENDAR  
Pocket  
THE UNICORN CALENDAR  
by Robert Vayra. William Morrow  
THE EWOK CALENDAR - Return of the  
Jedi Illustrated by Pat Paris  
Random House.

## F&SF COMICS BOOKS

THE ALCHEMIST SUPREME (Translated  
from French) Dargaud TPB Colour  
ALLEY OOP by V.T.Hamlin  
Ken Pierce PB B&W  
BODE'S EROTICA by Vaughan Bode  
Pub NK TPB & HC colour.  
ELFQUEST BOOK 3 by Wendy & Richard  
Pini Starburst TPB Colour  
GHITA OF ALIZARR by Frank Thorne  
Pacific TPB Colour  
JEREMY BROOD Part Two by Jan Stinad  
and Richard Corben Fantagor TPB  
Colour.  
LIGHTRUNNER by Lamar Waldron and Rod  
Wingham Starblaze TPB  
MANGA! MANGA! The World Of Japanese  
Comics By Frederik L. Schodt  
Kodansha (Japan)  
MISTY AND THE SUN JEWEL by James McQuade  
SF graphic story. B&W TPB. Nuance.  
THE OUTER SPACE SPIRIT by Will Eisner  
and Wally Wood TPB B&W Kitchen  
Sink Press  
THE SURVIVORS - TALONS OF BLOOD  
by Hermann Fantagraphics Colour  
VALERIAN French SF series in full  
clour by J.C.Mezieres and P.Christin  
AMBASSADOR OF THE SHADOWS  
HEROES OF THE EQUINOX  
WELCOME ON ALFLOLOL  
WORLD WITHOUT STARS Dargaud NY

## F & SF FILM BOOKS

THE AMAZING HERSHELL GORDON LEWIS &  
HIS WORLD OF EXPLOITATION FILMS  
by Daniel Krogh & John McCarty  
TPB Fantaco  
THE GREAT BOOK OF MOVIE MONSTERS  
by Jan Stacy & Ryder Syvertson  
Contemporary Books TPB  
KUBRICK By Michael Ciment William  
Collins. TPB Full coverage of all  
Kubricks films - profusely illustrated.  
MONSTERS OF THE MOVIES by Michael Cross  
MacDonald Large format, poster style  
paperback book.  
A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF HORROR FILMS  
by Denis Gifford Hamlyn TPB RP  
Slightly revised edition.

THE PSYCHOTRONIC ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FILM  
by Michael Weldon TPB Ballantine  
NFD.

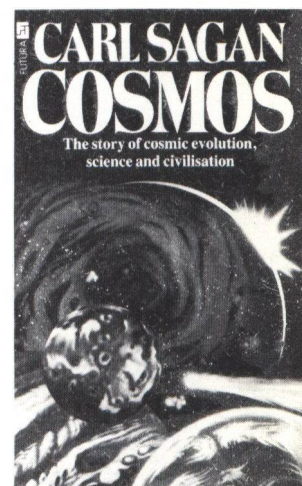
THE STEVEN SPIELBERG STORY by Tony  
Crawley TPB Zomba UK and Quill USA  
WALT DISNEY'S FANTASIA by John Culhane  
Abrahams HC A large format deluxe  
volume. There may also be an abridged  
paperback edition available.

## NON-FICTION, F & SF CRITICISM ETC.

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF SCIENCE FICTION  
AND FANTASY LISTS by Maxim Jakubowski  
and Malcolm Edwards PB Panther  
SAMUEL R.DELANY by Seth McEvoy  
FE TPB & HC Frederick Ungar Lit. Crit.  
THE SCIENCE FICTION IMAGE by Gene  
Wright HC Facts on File. An illus-  
trated encyclopedia of sf on film,  
tv, radio etc. (Bookwise Australia.)  
STANISLAW LEM by Roger E.Ziegfield  
TPB & HC F.Ungar Lit. crit.  
STARMONT SERIES Science Fiction Authors  
Literary Criticism TPBs Starmont  
House: A.E.VAN VOGT by Jeffrey Elliot  
C.S.LEWIS by Brian Murphy, H.G.WELLS  
by Robert Crossley, H.P.LOVECRAFT by  
S.T.Joshi, JAMES TIPTREE Jr. by Mark  
Siegel, OLAF STAPLEDON by John  
Kinnard, PERS ANTHONY by Michael  
Collins, PHILIP K.DICK by Hazel Pierce,  
ROBERT SILVERBERG by Thomas Clareson,  
and ROGER ZELAZNY by Carl B.Yoke.

## SCIENCE

Some Astronomy,  
Space Travel  
and associated  
books of  
interest:



COSMOS by Carl Sagan The book of the  
TV series now in Futura PB.  
IMAGING SATURN The Voyager Flights to  
Saturn by Henry S.F.Cooper Jr.  
HC Holt, Rinehart & Winston.  
THE INTELLIGENT UNIVERSE by Professor  
Sir Fred Hoyle HC Michael Joseph.  
LIFE IN SPACE by The Editors of Life  
Magazine. A large format, profusely  
illustrated volume.  
MISSION TO MARS : Plans and Concepts  
for the First Mars Landing by James  
Edward Oberg TPB NAL  
THE OMNI BOOK OF COMPUTERS & ROBOTS  
edited by Owen Davies Zebra PB  
THE OMNI BOOK OF SPACE  
Edited by Owen Daviez Zebra PB  
THE OMNI FUTURE ALMANAC  
Edited by Robert Weill, Forward by  
Ben Bova. TPB NE (Hutchinson Aust.)  
PROJECT SPACE STATION: Plans for a  
Permanent Manned Space Center  
by Brian O'Leary HC Stackpole.  
SPUTNIK TO SPACE SHUTTLE The Complete  
Story of Space Flight by Ian Nicolson  
TPB Dodd Mead.



## THE WORLD FANTASY AWARDS - FINAL BALLOT

### BEST NOVEL:

FEVRE DREAM George R.R. Martin (Poseidon)  
 THE NESTLING Charles L. Grant (Pocket)  
 NIFFT THE LEAN Michael Shea (DAW)  
 PHANTOM Thomas Tessier (Atheneum)  
 THE SWORD OF THE LICTOR Gene Wolfe  
 (Timescape)

### BEST NOVELLA:

"Beyond Any Measure" Karl Edward  
 Wagner (Whispers #15-16)  
 "The Breathing Method" Stephen King  
 (DIFFERENT SEASONS - Viking)  
 "Confess the Seasons" Charles L. Grant  
 (PERPETUAL LIGHT - Warner)  
 "Horrible Imaginings" Fritz Leiber  
 (DEATH)  
 "Night's Swift Dragons" Charles L. Grant  
 (NIGHTMARE SEASONS - Doubleday)

### BEST SHORT FICTION:

"Deathtracks" Dennis Etchison (DEATH)  
 "Firestorm" Steve Rasnic Tem  
 (PERPETUAL LIGHT - Warner)  
 "The Gorgon" Tanith Lee (SHADOWS 5)  
 "The Man Who Met Picasso" Michael  
 Swanwick (Omni)  
 "Petra" Greg Bear (Omni)

### BEST ANTHOLOGY/COLLECTIONS:

THE DARK COUNTRY Dennis Etchison  
 (Scream Press)  
 DIFFERENT SEASONS Stephen King (Viking)  
 HECCATE'S CHILDREN Ed. Susan Schwartz (DAW)  
 NIGHTMARE SEASONS Charles L. Grant  
 (Doubleday)  
 PERPETUAL LIGHT Ed. Alan Ryan (Warner)  
 SHADOWS 5 Ed. Charles L. Grant (Doubleday)

### BEST ARTIST:

Jill Bauman Tom Cauty  
 R.J. Krupowicz Don Maitz  
 Michael Whelan

### SPECIAL AWARD - PRO:

Lester Del Rey (Del Rey/Ballantine)  
 Donald M. Grant (Donald M. Grant, Publisher)  
 David G. Hartwell (Timescape)  
 Patrick Lobrutto (Doubleday)  
 Douglas E. Winter

### SPECIAL AWARD - NON-PRO:

Francesco Cova (Kadath)  
 W. Paul Ganley (Weirdbook)  
 Robert T. Garcia (American Fantasy)  
 Stephen Jones & David Sutton (Fantasy  
 Tales)  
 Stuart David Schiff (Whispers/ Whispers  
 Press)

### LIFE ACHIEVEMENT:

Nominees not announced.

These awards will be presented at the  
 World Fantasy Convention, in Chicago,  
 October 1983. We will give the winners  
 next issue.

## PUBLISHERS PLEASE NOTE:

We will be pleased to receive books for  
 review at our 305/307 Swanston Street,  
 Melbourne address. We cannot guarantee to  
 review all titles received and in par-  
 ticular we will in most cases not do  
 reprints, books we have already reviewed  
 in other editions or non-fantasy and  
 science fiction books such as occult  
 and UFOs. We are interested in f&sf  
 film books, fantasy art and space travel.  
 ALL books in the field will be covered  
 in our Books listing or our F&SF Check-  
 list.



## SOME CRITICAL COMMENTARIES

BY GEORGE TURNER

Is it symptomatic of the present state  
 of science fiction that of seven books  
 offered me for review, the three best  
 are reprints from the late '60s and  
 early '70s?

Each of the three has, in its fashion,  
 a sort of genre 'classic' status (here  
 meaning no more than 'outstanding of  
 its kind'), and if ever a fanzine could  
 be called 'classic' it has to be SF  
 Commentary Reprint Edition; First Year,  
 1969, containing the first eight issues  
 complete. If handing over \$40 for a  
 copy sounds breathtaking, remember that  
 attendance at a three-day convention  
 will cost you more and rarely be half  
 as rewarding.

The roll call of contributors in that  
 first year -- from A for Aldiss down  
 to W for Whiteford, Wodhams and Harry  
 Warner, taking in Lem, Rottensteiner,  
 Bangsund, Geis, Foyster, Dick et al  
 on the way -- is enough to make any  
 competitor look to its laurels, and  
 the bright tone of the writing is a  
 tribute to its swinging youth. I re-  
 read the transcripts of the Discussion  
 Panel from the 1968 Melbourne Science  
 Fiction Conference (my first experience  
 of fandom in the mass) and the 1969  
 Melbourne Convention, and wondered if  
 any of us are capable of being so quick-  
 wittedly interesting today; even the  
 SFC of 1982 seems to have lost the  
 ebullience of thirteen years earlier,  
 as though it had settled into middle  
 age. (Haven't we all? Observe the  
 1969 photos opposite pp 141 and 142 to  
 see us As We Were before senility, self-  
 consciousness and overeating set in.)

There are marvellous nostalgia trips  
 here: James Blish ripping little bloody  
 strips off Franz Rottensteiner, Lem's  
 Ten Commandments for the SF reader,  
 Gillespie's first rush of admiration  
 for Phil Dick, Damien Broderick writing  
 even more impenetrable prose than he  
 sometimes does today, John Foyster  
 dispensing magisterial pats and frowns,  
 and torrents of communication from  
 people whose names are the touchstones  
 of fandom. All this plus several  
 thousand words of new material from  
 editor Bruce Gillespie binding the  
 issues historically together. These  
 200,000 words are worth \$40.

Even older than SFC is Italo Calvino's  
 re-issued Cosmicomics (Abacus; 153 pp;  
 \$6.95) which has rarely been out of  
 print since 1965. If you have sampled  
 the later If On A Winter's Night A  
 Traveller and been puzzled and bored,  
 please go back to this earlier book and  
 taste the pleasures of his younger  
 writing. Pitched somewhere between the  
 subtleties of Borges (but less austere)

and the robot stories of Lem (but with  
 a more sophisticated humour), these  
 tales comment happily on the history of  
 mankind. Calvino twiddles science and  
 psychology between his fingers with an  
 insouciant irreverence foreshadowing  
 the antics of the Monty Python group,  
 but played with a straight face hiding  
 a wicked grin. Cosmicomics will be  
 with us for many years yet.

Gene Wolfe's The Fifth Head of Cerberus  
 (Arrow; 192 pp) represents the height  
 of his achievement in sf. You may  
 prefer the 'New Sun' series, but to me  
 that seems diffuse and languid beside  
 his earlier work. Wolfe wrote only one  
 work superior to this dense and subtle  
 study of alien/human relations, and that  
 was his beautiful mainstream novel,  
Peace, which is also available on the  
 Space Age shelves in paperback. If you  
 love good writing, get both of them.

Next in time comes a 1980 oddity from  
 Brian Aldiss, Foreign Bodies: Stories  
 (Chompen; 94pp; \$ ?), a collection  
 specially written for the Singapore  
 Book Fair of that year. The tales  
 are not SF but they are pure Aldiss  
 and enjoyable. Those who heard him  
 speak at Unicon IV will recognise the  
 title story as a fleshed-out version  
 of the false-memory anecdote which  
 was the climax of his GoH speech.  
 This is human Aldiss, unconcerned  
 with the hard artificers of fantasy.

Coming to 1982 we have Frank Herbert's  
THE WHITE PLAGUE (Gollancz; 445pp;  
 \$ ?), for me the least of the group.  
 Like all Herbert's more pretentious  
 novels (why can't he write another  
Dragon In The Sea?) it sets up a huge  
 target and fails to hit it. The  
 postulate is that a biologist vents  
 his rage against the world by producing  
 a plague which kills only women.  
 (pages and pages of ingenious micro-  
 biology here to show how super-sci-  
 entific it is -- all stuff which can  
 be, and eventually is, explained in  
 a few simple paragraphs.) The great  
 weakness of the book is that, having  
 robbed the world of its female popu-  
 lation -- and therefore of half the  
 labour and impetus which keeps civil-  
 isation operable -- Herbert portrays  
 it as continuing more or less normally,  
 except perhaps at bedtime. One gets  
 the impression everyone is dead  
 keen to create more girls but in the  
 mean time can do well enough with an  
 all-male society; there is no sense of  
 loss. Briefly -- balls! Still, it  
 is better storytelling than the pseudo  
 - philosophising of the 'Dune' novels  
 or the computer-god books, but it is  
 far too long for its content.

It seems a shame to say it but Ursula  
 Le Guin, who did so much back in 1975  
 to put vitality into a workshop of  
 young Australian writers, has moved  
 away from the themes that excited us  
 so much then, and in doing so has moved  
 away from the warmth that charmed our  
 hearts as well as our heads.

The stories in THE COMPASS ROSE  
 (Gollancz; 273pp; \$18.95) excite the  
 intellect more than the heart. They  
 are finely written and elegantly  
 structured, they say unobtrusively,  
 but clearly what they have to say,  
 but the heart is rarely moved. Oh,  
 there are moments -- in 'The New



Atlantis'. 'The Eye Altering' (written for her 1975 workshop here), 'The Wife's Story', 'Malheur County' -- when the old magic grips, but they are moments only. Ursula has moved on to other territory and my heart has not followed her. But this is only comparison with the past; at her best she is still ahead of most of the field.

Walter Tevis's *Mockingbird* had a mixed reception two years ago; those who approved thought highly of it, those who didn't were bored. Reaction to the short stories of *Far From Home* (Gollancz; 181pp; \$18.95) may be similar. They are divided into two sections, 'Far From Home', which contains slightly zany SF, smartly amusing, from the 50s and 60s, and 'Close To Home' wherein the stories are not really SF but menacing glimpses of humanity from odd angles; these are far more accomplished and meaningful. All in all, it is a workmanlike collection, satisfying without containing anything really memorable, like a good selection from a quality magazine.

Brooding over the past and present, I can think only that today's SF has attained a great professional, technical, high-style competence -- and lost its soul. SF could do with less of its trendy, enamelled efficiency and more release of honest feeling.

#### MISTS OF AVALON

by Marion Bradley;  
Michael Joseph; 876pp; \$19.95

This Arthurian blockbuster, a best seller in three countries, is not, as the publishers claim, a woman's-eye-view of Camelot but a Druid-priestess's-eye-view of Christianity encroaching on the ancient magic. Magic fails in the end by its tendency to recoil on its users.

As a romance the story intrigues by the author's rehandling of the familiar Arthurian characters, mainly in the direction of humanising them; a spiteful, bitching Guinevere comes as a refreshing surprise and a neat touch regarding the nature of the Grail adds a spice of satire to the mixture.

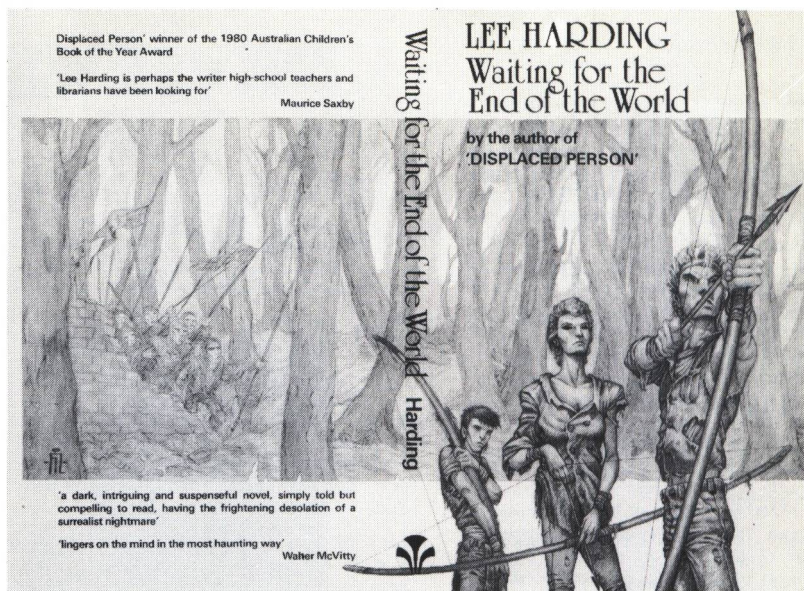
The book's great weakness is its moralising and agonising across great stretches of prose which one soon learns to treat with hefty skipping.

#### THE AFFIRMATION

by Christopher Priest;  
Arena; 213pp; \$7.95.

Priest has expressed a desire to 'open up' the boundaries of science fiction; it's an amorphous statement without clear intention, but *THE AFFIRMATION* offers some clues. It is not of SF save in very marginal terms and it remains too close to psychological reality to be called fantasy.

A man with an unsatisfactory life tries to settle his problems by writing an autobiography but finds himself instead describing an alternate existence which assumes narrative reality. Some extremely skilful handling leaves the reader unsure of the nature of the twin realities as a schizophrenic vision shifts between them. The end is unsensational but right and satisfying.



Priest is not to my mind as subtle a writer as critics like John Clute would insist; his style is, in fact, notably plain, but the plainness veils much intelligent manipulation of effects. This is much his best work to date, a rare example of a SF concept adding something to contemporary fiction rather than merely plundering it.

#### WAITING FOR THE END OF THE WORLD

by Lee Harding,  
Hyland House; 206pp; \$12.95

After twenty years of writing, careful tradesmanship remains Harding's trademark. *DISPLACED PERSON* (1979) marked a leap in quality; this novel confirms the indication of new technical capacities.

His strength is in careful observation of relationships; his characters are not drawn in great depth but they react to and upon each other to define a restless flow of communal consciousness and create an illusion of life. This novel also emphasises Harding's movement away from generic SF. If you call it SF because it is set in the 21st century, that is your privilege but ungenerous to a book whose centre of interest is elsewhere.

In an Australia of technological downfall many young people flee Melbourne's pollution and authoritarianism to seek freer life in the countryside. There, life is not easy and they are harried by Patrol helicopter seeking out terrorists, but they manage subsistence by application and the sharing of knowledge. With the family system broken down, they find it hard to relate to each other, and much of the story is concerned with the rediscovery of interdependence.

On the surface the tale deals with young Manfred's decision to make a longbow modelled on those used at Agincourt. This leads to a tinge of the supernatural which may be Manfred's private hallucination--or may not, depending on how you read it--and finally to flight from a Patrol-ignited bushfire, in search of a fabled Eden which may or may not exist. It is a simple story but never short of movement, and the characters hold the interest. The book stands just to one side of the usual 'breakdown'

#### LEE HARDING Waiting for the End of the World

by the author of  
'DISPLACED PERSON'

novel, far enough to be different from any other. It is not a great novel but it is a good one in its class of realistic imagining.

Have I no cavil at all? Yes, one that surely matters. Harding has not yet mastered the rhythms of speech; his dialogue, even in moments of stress, has a formality which tends to flatten excitement and undercut the suspension of disbelief. Still--recommended, especially for that mysterious group known to publishers as 'young adults'.

#### TOMORROW AND TOMORROW AND TOMORROW

by M. Barnard Eldershaw;  
Virago; 456pp; \$9.95.

This is the finest SF ever produced in Australia and one of the genre's all time best novels. Forget the publicity about wartime censoring; the passages removed are harmless now and were pretty harmless then. They are all listed in a special section for those interested in the psychological of wartime censorship.

In an Australia some centuries in the future, a young man wants to change the world politically, while another is writing a historical novel about the period 1924-46. The two activities complement each other, and the historical novel forms the core of the book. It was completed in 1942, so the vision of the war's end is far from the facts but philosophically pretty correct, and the rendering of the time is absolutely true to my memory of it. The tying-in of our cultural attitudes with those of the 24th century provides an unexpected and deflating climax to the young revolutionary's hopes.

This novel is in no sense a thriller or typical genre work; it is for those who prefer humanity to gimmickry. It has been too long forgotten.

All reviews to here by GEORGE TURNER

Gollancz books are distributed in Australia by Hutchinson Australia, Michael Joseph by Nelson, Arena by Hodder and Stoughton, Hyland House by Dent, Virago by Australasian Publishing Company and Unicorn Books by Allen & Unwin Australia.





### AN UNUSUAL ANGLE

by Greg Egan,  
Norstrilia \$7.95 TPB \$15.95 HC

AN UNUSUAL ANGLE, Greg Egan's debut novel, is a high school memoir told in the language of film. The narrator has, a la THE CONTINUOUS KATHERINE MORTENHOE a camera behind the eyes, and the novel is about making perhaps the definitive documentary on school life.

I say perhaps, because AN UNUSUAL ANGLE seems strangely incomplete. The narrator is obsessed with his film to the exclusion of most else; teachers are characterized, but not fellow students, and adolescent sex never once rears its pimply head. In place of these strictly factual aspects, Egan substitutes fantasy, which consists of Walter Mitty-esque daydreams, and on extraterrestrial white rabbit (why not green, for a change?). The former work well within the context of the book, but the latter does not, possibly because Egan was unsure how surreal his novel should be. AN UNUSUAL ANGLE suffers from vacillation between realism and fantasy, and ends up an uneasy mixture of the two.

This is a pity, because Egan has the ability to write in character (the novel reads like a teenage diary-for-posterity) and his descriptions are assured. The account of the school play is particularly memorable, and could have been published separately as a piece of short fiction. Clearly Egan has immense potential as a writer. Yet on the whole AN UNUSUAL ANGLE is more a promise of good things to come than a promise fulfilled.

Reviewed by Lucy Sussex.

OUR THANKS this issue to Karen Quinlan for helping with the typing, Justin Ackroyd for proofreading, Susan Redmond for handling all the subscriptions and mailing, and all our contributors and reviewers.

### RE-ENTRY

by Paul Preuss  
Bantam Books; 212 pgs; \$2.95 US

The method of cutting corners in space has been discovered... simply zip through a black hole. However someone else calculates that if one turns around whilst in the black hole and emerges the way they came that they have gone back to correct things, trying to influence his doppel-ganger (for all this creates or takes place in an infinity of universes) to not make the mistakes he made. Nevertheless things still stagger on to the previous conclusion. Moral, you can't change the future by meddling with the past.

However, this is a very well written book with some surprising developments in the plot and interesting characters.

### MARATHON

by D. Alexander Smith  
Ace Books; 250pgs; \$2.50 US

The story of this book has been written many times. The crew of a spaceship, journeying for most of the lives of the crew to meet an alien race, tear themselves to pieces. But read on. Seldom has the story been written so well. There are eleven in the crew, pretty well each representing a different race, one of those sickening condescensions the Americans are so fond of, and this reader settled his skean dhu more firmly in his hose and muttered, "No wonder they struck trouble, there are no Scots aboard, only unfortunate types.

In fact the crew were chosen because they were social misfits with no ties on earth, and the possibility of such a crew surviving would be remote. But when the strife is over, battered and bloody the survivors (though not really enough to crew the ship), carry on determined to survive. The characters analysis and development is neat and makes the book above the average of its type.

### AURELIA

by R. A. Lafferty,  
Donning Starblaze Editions, 183pgs, \$

Is this a serious book or is it a piece of fantasy? Aurelia who is sent out from the Shining Planet to rule whatever planet she lands on, gets lost and lands on the earth. It would help her a lot if she knew the name of the planet but no-one tells her. Her rulership of the earth is immediately taken in hand by lots of people, all of whom may not have been that disinterested themselves, and there is much ballyhoo and carrying on, something vaguely like a convention of a major political party in the United States. One wonders, is this just accidental? And all the urgers immediately surround the girl, they do seem all too familiar, even if the story is rather far-out. And a typical sample, "There was a spate of books about Aurelia on her third morning in this world. Some of them were hasty jobs thrown together."

This book is a delightfully new approach to alien contact. Pictures in it too.

### A FINE AND PRIVATE PLACE

by Peter Beagle,  
Unicorn; 213pgs; \$7.95

This is one of those quietly moving and delightful books. It has as characters an old recluse who can see and talk to ghosts and who lives in a cemetery, a talking, self-pitying and contemptuous raven who brings him food to eat, this being the sort of things ravens are here for, and two newly arrived ghosts, male and female who fall in love, and a cranky care-taker who can also see and talk to ghosts and this is just about the sum total of all the characters, except for Mrs Klapper who falls for the old recluse. Nor is the plot terribly complicated, in fact as far as that goes this book is really just a very long short story.

The truth of it is, according to the book, ghosts only hang around whilst they have something on earth to keep them here, and our two ghosts have each other. So they stay and talk. Its quite refreshing to have two people in love with each other and not in bed with each other, and they couldn't if they wanted to, they cannot even touch each other. A very refreshing book and well written.

### ASGARD

by Nigel Frith,  
Unicorn Books, 293pgs, \$8.95

Ah, here at last is the great Norse mythological cycle written (we may say at considerable length) for us all. This is completely different from the old saga type of tale with its short cryptic style which necessitated the knowledge of the story to understand. The work reads like a novel, which indeed in this form it now is. The mythological characters come to life, they are flesh and blood. The gods live as the old Norse lived, eating and drinking in a great hall with rushes strewn on the floor. They are indeed very human gods, however brawny.

It tells of the last days of Asgard. Balder is killed and goes to hell and there the gods journey to try and win him back. A fly lies about the world asking everything to weep for Balder. But the doom is inevitable as Odin well knows and still they try to avert it.

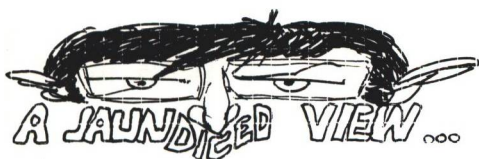
The old Norse myths have still their ancient power.

### THREE BOOKS BY ROBERT SILVERBERG

MAJIPOOR CHRONICLES (Bantam; 281; \$3.50) is set on the same world as "Lord Valentine's Castle", featuring a boy, who by visiting a Register of Souls, lives many lives and so fits himself for high office. The idea gives good scope and Silverberg uses it well, making it well worth reading. THE WORLD INSIDE (Bantam; 167 pp; \$2.50 US) is set on a future overpopulated Earth and is an interesting projection of present American society. THE BOOK OF SKULLS (Bantam; 196pp; \$2.95 US) also a new edition, is an in-depth study of four young men, which is not really in depth or profound.

The last two columns are all reviews by John Alderson.





## OF RECENT SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY BOOKS

By PAUL J. STEVENS

### DICING WITH DRAGONS

by Ian Livingstone  
Routledge and Kegan Paul PLC  
Trade pb \$8.95 ARP

This book is an introduction to role-playing games and a very good one it is too. There are articles on everything from Dungeons and Dragons to Traveller to Computer games. This is a handy volume to have for the person who wants to know all about the worlds of D&D before becoming involved.

### THE TWILIGHT ZONE COMPANION

by Marc Scott Zicree  
Bantam Trade pb \$9.95 ARP

In it's time THE TWILIGHT ZONE was the best fantasy series on tv, it gained a critical reputation that has not been diminished by time. Now at last there is a book that not only gives a plot summary of each episode, and there were five seasons in all, but gives you critical looks at various episodes and information on production. There are also articles on Rod Serling both before and after Twilight Zone. This is a volume to treasure and deserves to be on the bookshelf of every fantasy and movie buff.

Now, having dealt with two books that I should have mentioned last issue I turn to the heap of review books and find that a good percentage of them seem to be reissues. Not a healthy sign however I think I can glean enough new titles from the heap to fill up my quota of written reviews.  
HELLICONIA SPRING by Brian Aldiss is coming in a Triad/Granada pb edition at \$6.95 and can be recommended as can DRAGONWORLD by Byron Preiss, Michael Reaves and Joseph Zucker in it's Bantam paperback form, complete with all it's original illustrations. It is not Tolkien, but what is these days?  
Speaking of fantasy I was interested to read Alan Dean Foster's SPELLSINGER, part one of a two-part novel in which a non-heroic student gets transported to another world and finds that he is expected to save it with magic power, a power he is totally untrained with. Peopled with crazy characters like a bumbling Turtle who is a wizard, a crazy bat and an Otter who is deft with a sword, SPELLSINGER is an entertaining read, and an added plus is the fact that the second and concluding volume will be out by the end of 1983.

SPELLSINGER by Alan Dean Foster

Warner Books. pb \$2.95 US

### LIFEPROBE

by Michael Mc Collum  
DEL REY pb \$2.95 usa

This is my recommended read for the month and tells of a probe sent out into

the universe by a race of alien beings who lack space travel in an attempt to contact any civilisation that might be willing to exchange scientific knowledge. There are thousands of probes dispatched over many years and one probe finds and contacts Earth in the near future. The problems encountered almost spell the end of the probe and of Earth's quest for first contact. This is a good story and should prove popular amongst the sf readers.

### CESTUS DEI

by John Maddox Roberts  
Tor Books PB \$2.75 usa

In the far distant future an all-powerful church is gradually rediscovering the worlds lost in a collapse of a galactic empire. One such world is found and is similar to ancient Rome with slavery, an emperor and circuses. The story tells of the church and it's attempt to return a straying world to it's fold, a good story if a little bland and unexciting in parts.

### YEARWOOD / UNDERSEA

by Paul Hazel  
vol. 1 & 2 of the FINNBRANCH. Sphere  
pb \$5.95 and \$6.95 ARPs

Yet another of the fantasy series very loosely based on legend or whatever. If you love fantasy then you will love these two books but if you hate fantasy then avoid it like the plague. It is well-written but it does tend to labour on a bit much.

### SUPERMAN III

by William Kotzwinkle  
Arrow Books pb \$4.95 ARP

Kotzwinkle does his best to save what is a laboured script and turn out an entertaining novel but no one could save this turkey. It may look better on the big screen.

### DAY OF THE DRAGONSTAR

by David Bischoff and Thomas Montelone  
Berkley Science Fiction pb \$2.75 usa

Now here is a good idea that is fun and exciting. A giant spaceship is found floating in orbit near the outer planets and in it are the living remnants of dinosaurs from Earth's dim past. Who put it there? And who are the intelligent creatures who look like they have descended from dinosaur stock? All these questions and more are answered in this exciting sf adventure Good, rousing science fiction.

## THE CYGNUS CHRONICLER

An Australian Review of Science Fiction and Fantasy

Featuring fiction from the best Australian authors, art from the best Australian artists, plus reviews, news and letters, and regular columns on SF-related themes.

Only \$5 per year from:  
The Eperex Press  
PO Box 770  
Canberra City ACT 2601  
Australia

# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Americans Aubrey MacDermott and Jeremy Parnov are organising an sf conference to be held in Moscow, August 17-20, '84. Participants will include Soviet SF authors and fans, and members of the USSR Copyright Agency. More details can be obtained from Aubrey MacDermott, 130 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur CA 94939, USA.

An organisation called the United States Information Agency has been responsible for tours to various parts of the world, by sf authors and fans. This came about after when cultural officers mentioned an interest in sf. Frederik Pohl has visited the Eastern Bloc Countries and Kate Wilhelm and Damon Knight have been to South America. James Gunn visited Yugoslavia, the USSR and Iceland as part of the American Participants Program. He spoke to groups of various sizes, gave interviews to newspapers and fans and was a guest at social gatherings. The USICA sent Wilhelm and Knight on a trip to South East Asia in January, where they visited Indonesia, Malaysia, and Hong Kong. They reported that the Asian people had a better grasp of the concept of science fiction than the South American people, even though many had never read any sf. When they said that sf was "the only form of literature that can deal with the rapid technological change that is transforming the world", the Asian people knew exactly what they meant. Wilhelm and Knight had many other interesting observations to make about their Asian trip, in an article in the June issue of *Locus*.

CHARLES BROWN, editor of *Locus*, recently visited China. He was accompanied by Fred Pohl, Peggy Houle, Bill Wu and Elizabeth Anne Hull. The magazine has printed a number of reports from China by Ye Yonglie. While typing this NEWS we have listened to a direct broadcast, the first we are told, by the Melbourne radio station 3AW's broadcaster Deryn Hynch, from China. While listening to his comments we were surprised to learn how many misconceptions we had of the country. We will be interested to read Charlie's impressions.

The Swedish publisher NOVA has launched a new paperback line with PLAGUE OF MASTERS by Poul Anderson in March, with eight more titles due during the year. Sam Lundwall has bought and will translate for his publishing house Fakta & Fantasi, 11 anthologies edited by Harry Harrison and Brian Aldiss. He will also publish the two authors' collection of autobiographical essays HELL'S CARTOGRAPHERS.

## OUTER SPACE NEWS

PIONEER 10 spacecraft had by March 2nd traveled 3.27 million miles. It took 3 hours and 42 minutes at light speed for communications to reach Earth from the craft, and this time lag is lengthening at the rate of 1 minute every four days. NASA has selected October 1986, when Pioneer crosses the mean orbit of Pluto, as the official date when the craft leaves the solar system and becomes our first starship.





DUFF 1984

There are only two candidates for an Australian fan to attend L.A.CON next year. They are: JACK HERMAN and JOHN PACKER. Jack is a Sydney fan who has been very active in fandom, organising cons, helping run the Sydney SF Foundation and publishes his fanzine WAH-FUL on a regular basis. John is an Adelaide fan most noted for his cartooning and predilections with first of all triffids and more recently rats. He won this years Ditmar for Best F&SF Fan Cartoonist.

Voting forms for DUFF are obtainable from Marc Ortlieb, c/o GPO Box 2708X, Melbourne, 3001, Victoria and Jerry Kaufman, 4326 Winslow Place No., Seattle, WA 98103 U.S.A. Closing date is February 29th, 1984.

GUFF 1984

Four fans are standing for the fund to send an Australian fan to England, to attend the 1984 British National Con. JUSTIN ACKROYD, who graduated from being a member of the Melbourne University SF Club to helping with the auctions and various cons and running Tschaicon, the 1983 National SF convention in Melbourne. SHAYNE MCCORMACK has been in Sydney and Australian fandom probably longer than she will admit. She has been active in all aspects of fandom and most recently has been editing the Sydney SF Foundation's magazine FORERUNNER. JEAN WEBER is the editor of one of Australia's best fanzines for the last few years, WEBER-WOMAN'S WREVENGE. She has been accused of being a flaming feminist, but we are sure that is not true. ROGER WEDDALL is another Melbourne University SF Club graduate, and was one of the non-organisers of the 1978 National Australian SF Con. He is currently the editor of the fan news magazine THYME.

Voting forms for GUFF are obtainable from John Foyster, 21 Shakespeare Grove, St Kilda, 3182 or Joseph Nicholas, 22 Denbigh St., Pimlico, London SW1V 2ER UK. Minimum donation to GUFF is \$2.00 or £1.00 Deadline is January 1st 1984.

FFANZ If you would like to go to New Zealand for a convention next year you still have time to nominate for FFANZ. Write to administrator John Newman for details and nomination forms, but don't leave it too long. John's address is: P.O.Box 4, Thornbury, 3071, Victoria, Australia.

THE SHAW FUND is designed by fans including Marc Ortlieb and Justin Ackroyd, to bring British author/fan BOB SHAW to Australia for the 1985 Worldcon. For details of how you can help to bring Bob Shaw, who is a very funny guy, and a great addition to any con, to Australia, write to Marc and Justin at GPO Box 2708X, Melbourne 3001, Victoria, Australia.

## FAN NEWS AND NOTICES



Paul Stevens, Jane Tissel and Kit Driver at Paul & Kit's engagement party.

Melbourne fans KIT DRIVER and PAUL STEVENS held their engagement party at the home of Merv Binns on September 10th. It was a rousing success, with over 60 people turning up to offer their congratulations. The wedding is on November 5th. A smaller, private affair again at the Binns residence.

DAVID P. LYDFORD, flat 2, 13 Gladstone Rd., Richmond, Nelson Province, New Zealand, would like to contribute stories and artwork to fanzines. Oh, the artwork is by Murray Sparrow.

Readers interested in joining the SPACE ASSOCIATION, should write to P.O.Box 4, Thornbury, 3071, Victoria. They promote the advancement and expansion of space exploration through all it's activities, which include lectures, film shows and various other activities.

Another associated organisation to the above is the SOUTHERN CROSS L-5 SOCIETY. For details on their activities contact P.O.Box 61, Miranda, NSW 2228.

## obituaries

LARRY PROPP, 38, co-chairman of Chicon IV, the 1982 World SF Convention, died July 28th in Chicago of an apparent heart attack. He is survived by his parents, Leo and Janet Propp, and his sister Gail Heckmeyer. Larry was born March 24th, 1945, in Peoria, Illinois. He grew up in Preoria and graduated from the University of Illinois with a law degree.

He entered fandom in 1969 and soon became involved in running conventions, and went on to help organise many conventions including the 1976, 77, 78 and of course the 1982 World Cons.

BOB PAVLAT, well known Washington DC fan, died suddenly on Monday June 13th this year. He is survived by his wife Peggy Rae, also an active fan, and two teenage children. Pavlat was a fan all his life, being involved in fanzine publishing, running conventions and all aspects of fandom.



Some figures received from SYNCON '83 include the attendance total of 536, which included 501 attending, which is the largest sf convention held in this country apart from AUSSIECON I. The total receipts were \$13,071.48 and expenses \$11,369.46, leaving a profit of \$1706.02 to be distributed to other worthy causes, including Tschaicon.

In reference to the awards and to clarify any previous statements we printed; no change was made to the categories, but the definition of the form of the Awards were changed so that they no longer need to be made of black stone. However, those responsible for the most recent Ditmar Award designs have been asked to draw up a draft codification of current interpretations and traditions.

Seattle (Spawncon) did actually win the bid for the 1985 National Australian convention. It will be held in conjunction with the 1985 Northwestcon and will continue at a time and place to be announced in Adelaide, where the Awards and Business Meeting will be handled. Fans are crazy people!

Now that the '85 bid has been settled for the Worldcon, people will be looking beyond. Three American cities are bidding for '86, New York, Philadelphia and Atlanta. Astute judge Andrew Porter of SF Chronicle declines to make a decision at this time as to who will win, but he was on the button in supporting Austin Texas for the NASPIC '85, which is the national convention in the USA when the world con is overseas.

L.A.CON is the 1984 World SF Convention to be held in the Olympic Games city after the Games. The 42nd WorldCon is being held August 30th to September 3rd at the Anaheim Convention Centre, Anaheim, CA. The GoH is Gordon R. Dickson, Fan GoH Dick Eney. Memberships \$40.00 US, supporting \$20.00. Write LACON II, P.O. Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA.

The next Australian convention is SWANCON NINE January 27th to 30th, 1984. It will be held at the Westos Motor Inn, Canning Highway, South Perth, 6151, Western Australia. The GoH is HARRY HARRISON. Rates: \$15.00 to November 30th 1983 and \$5.00 supporting. Further details from P.O.Box 318, Nedlands, 6009, WA.

EUREKACON The 23rd National Australian Science Fiction Convention, will be held at The Melbourne Town House, Easter-April 20th to 23rd 1983. GoH is GEORGE TURNER. Memberships are now \$25.00 with \$15.00 supporting. Membership at the door will be \$35.00. For further details write P.O.Box 175, South Melbourne, 3205, Victoria.

MEDTREK '84

To be held at The Shore Inn, 450 Pacific Highway, Artarmon, NSW, on March 10th and 11th, 1984. The Guest of Honour will be BJO TRIMBLE. Fan Guest NIKKI WHITE. The membership is \$30.00 up to 17



January 1st 1984. \$35.00 at the door. Supporting memberships \$10.00. The GoH BJO TRIMBLE, is well known to fandom, having been active in American sf fandom and Star Trek fandom, for some years.

**KINKON** Featuring Sight and Sound in Science Fiction, will be held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Melbourne, June 9 - 11 1984. For details write to P.O.Box 1581P, Melbourne 3001, Victoria.

**AUSSIECON II** The 44th World Science Fiction Convention Progress Report #0 is now available from us or from the committee at GPO Box 2253U, Melbourne, 3000, Victoria, Australia. Watch for special Aussiecon II features in future issues of the NEWS.



Joanne Einhorn,  
Alternative Productions,  
1/2B Lynedoch Avenue,  
EAST ST KILDA VIC 3183

14th June, 1983

Dear Mr Binns,

As well as being a small publisher, I am a freelance editor and indexer.

If you, or any authors as you know, need help with any aspect of publishing from literary appraisal through to paste-up, proofreading or indexing, please feel free to contact me on 527-7738.

I also translate from French and German.

Sincerely,

Joanne Einhorn

Betty de Gabriele,  
19 Collins Street,  
ST ALBANS VIC 3021

17th June, 1983

Dear Merv,

Just recently I went along to Syncon '83 to hopefully discover for myself what these cons were all about. Now I have dabbled in conventions before, but this one was to be one of the best, partly made so by the wonderful guest of honour, Harlan Ellison. He kept everything lively and made himself available a great deal of the time to his fans and those converted to his side after viewing the man up close and not going on the heresay of others.

Anyway what I'm writing about is to say that I read your Australian SF News and appreciated the informative style you use. Also knowing more now of the people you talk about makes it better. The Robert Bloch article on Harlan Ellison was great and very timely. And it's a good source of con information now that I'm hoping to go to a few more.

Thank you for your magazine and for being such a strong force in keeping Melbourne Fandom going strong.

Sincerely,

Betty de Gabriele.

Dear Betty,

Thank you for your kind comments. A bit of encouragement is just what I need at the moment.

Merv B.

Malcolm Smith  
Box 50  
Rainbow, Vic. 3424

28/8/83

Dear Merv,

I read the editorial you wrote in No.34 of A.S.F.N. about the categories in the Ditmar awards. I agree whole heartedly with what you say.

As someone who has read and tried to write (and failed) both long and short fiction it is obvious that these two categories should be kept separate. The whole structure and style of a short story is handled differently to a novel, it is like comparing a marathon runner to a 100 yard sprinter. As you said, it isn't because you aren't producing enough work that they are kept together in one category.

I am not really in the position to comment on the best recipient artist award as I have not seen enough work by either artists. It would appear that your opinion of Chris Johnston is not all that widely held as this is not the first time that Marilyn Pride has pulled off this award.

You said in your editorial that there should not be any cartooning award, I would have to support you on this. Cartooning in S.F. is hardly a highly commercialized field like other areas are.

If a cartoonist is good enough he or she will end up being nominated in the artist category. Cartooning is art also, which raises another point, how to decide what is art as distinct from cartooning. Many artists work could be counted as both, for example, Tim Kirk whose work could be classified in either category. Another artist that comes to mind is Jack Gaughan who as well as being a very talented artist also does many cartoons for a number of the American Prozines.

Anyway those are my humble views on the matter, so now I've aired my opinions I can crawl back under my rock for a while. As the Cisco Kid used to say, "All until next time Pancho"

Malcolm Smith.

Dear Malcolm,

My main objections to the cartoonist category in the Ditmars, was that other categories that I felt should have been included were left out. There being a limited number of Awards that can be given according to the constitution of the National Conventions. The main problem is that not enough people bother to nominate and/or vote and there were so few nominations for Australian fiction this year, that the Syncon committee were forced to combine long and short fiction. Let's hope we can overcome that problem next year.

Meanwhile I have no real objections to cartooning as a category except if it means that other categories are left out. I also have no prejudice against John Packer, his cartoons can be quite funny, but I am sure he would be the first to agree that other artists have a lot more

artistic ability. I mentioned Chris Johnston in my editorial, because he is a good artist and humourist both, while other artists, such as Marilyn Pride, although great artists can not necessarily produce good cartoons.

Merv B.

Val Rogers,  
16 Arundel Street,  
West Pymble N.S.W 2073

22nd August, 1983.

Dear Merv,

Hi, how are you? Thanks for your newsletter--it's top quality, as usual. But there is something I would like to say, and I don't know quite how to put it. Right. Re the photo page on the Con: the question mark was right--it wasn't John Lewis with Karen, but Ian McLean (Maclean?). John and Karen have been divorced for a couple of years-- the split-up having come to a head during Aussietrek in 1979.

But I realise you can only print what others tell you (besides what you've observed yourself, of course). Case in point: we have a very talented, but shy, model maker up here in Sydney, called David Tremont, and he made exact replicas of the guns used in "Blake's 7", to go with the costumes that some of the Spectrum group made for the fancy dress masquerade. (He even made one for Grover (the muppet) who wore his Avon costume)! And it was reported to Susan Clarke of Astrex, who printed in Data, that Peter Buggy made them. I don't know whether it was done for a joke or not--but there it was in print! Poor David.

I agree with what you said about the Golden Catepillar awards. They must make sure, in future, that the recipients have a sense of humour.

Well I guess that's all for now. Will you be coming up for Medtrek, the media convention, next year? It's to be held at the same place, the Shore Motel.

All the best,

Sincerely,

Val Rogers.

Dear Val,

Thank you for the corrections. Nobody else picked me. Sometimes I wonder if anybody does really read the NEWS. I did miss CONQUEST, but I may get to MEDVENTION. I depends on a lot of things at the moment.

Merv B.

16th July, 1983  
Shayne McCormack,  
P.O.Box A491,  
SYDNEY SOUTH,  
NSW 2000

Dear Merv,

Not a great deal happening in Sydney at the moment. The SSFF is currently in dormancy and may well close unless I decided to do something about it. I say "I" because no-one else appears to be very interested. I'm very busy with my own personal social activities and it's a matter of whether I want to devote part of my limited free time to it.



The dormancy of the SSFF is symptomatic of the state of NSW fandom at this time - even Syncon did little to help. Media fandom is very active, producing fanzines, having meetings and planning a Con for next year under the auspices of ASTREX. The SCA is still going reasonably strong and although I haven't attended meetings lately, I know it still has various activities. There is not, however, any real forum for people genuinely interested in SF, and I've been thinking about doing something about that through Galaxy. When I have time to think about it properly I may do something.

Can you also let people know that with the dormancy of the SSFF, Forerunner is no longer being produced, so I can't guarantee they will receive anything if they continue to send their fanzines. I do hope to put out a zine reviewing and commenting on those I've received over the past months, when I get time....you know what I mean...Real Soon Now.

Regards,  
Shayne

Dear Shayne,

Thank you for the very comprehensive review of RETURN OF THE JEDI. I am looking forward to seeing it later this month.

Merv B.

WAHF-FULL  
Jack R. Herman  
Box 272  
Wentworth Building  
Sydney University  
Australia 2006

Dear Merv,

15/9/83

The latest A.S.F.N. was bought recently at Galaxy and continues its usual standard. I can't say that it's the most exciting zine I received but it's always of interest.

Could I suggest that if you want it to be regarded as a Fanzine you might think about trading for other zines and sending an ish to correspondents. As it is now, I regard it as a professional zine - for sale only.

Good Syn.Con, coverage - I'm glad we succeeded. Re Donaldson-Collins ran him ragged. I saw him for a few minutes in Sydney\* and since his return to the U.S. he's sent me a letter apologising for lack of contact. He was so busy he couldn't meet fans and was regretful.

Enclosed are some information re Syn.Con, including Business meeting outcomes.

See you,

Jack.

Dear Jack,

I am glad to know that Stephen Donaldson did apologise to you for not being able to make contact with fandom here. You have reminded me that I promised to publish a letter from Reyna Mathews at William Collins, who criticised me for my comments on Donaldson's visit. However with apologies to Ms Mathews I will not print her letter in full, as I now believe that the contents would not be of general interest and I am short of space as usual. She pointed out that the lectures at the Universities and

Colleges were publicised and that the attendance at those was very good. From Collins point of view, which I fully appreciate, they got their money's worth, but as I tried to point out to her, fandom is something else again and it was a bit disappointing that there was not time for us to meet him. We have been spoilt a bit by the visits of authors for conventions, which being fairly leisurely affairs have allowed us to socialise with our guests

Merv B.

I received a letter from Shayne Keenan, of 21 Albert Street, Horsham, 3400, Victoria regarding exchanging video recordings of DR WHO programmes. I do hope he is aware of the implications of this request, but other fans who are interested can write to Shayne at the above address.

Sorry, but that's all I can squeeze in this issue. Letters from John Alderson, Michael Hailstone and Russell Blackford will be in the next issue. I thank them and all the people with letters here, for taking the time to write.

Merv Binns / Ed.



SOME BRIEF  
MENTIONS  
BY  
JANE  
TISSEL &  
MERV  
BINNS

#### STAR TREK

The Star Trek Clubs produce a number of fanzines which appear very regularly. Recent issues seen are:

##### DATA

Editor, Susan Clarke, 6 Bellevue Road, Faulconbridge, NSW 2776, Aust. Clubzine for ASTREX. Duplicated, 50pp. Not exclusively Star Trek oriented.

##### CAPTAIN'S LOG

Editor, Tom Bartolotta, GPO Box 5206aa, Melbourne 3001, Australia. (mark envelopes "Captain's Log"). Clubzine for AUSTREK. Photocopied, 18pp.

##### TAU CETI

Aust. Clubzine for SASTREK. Editors, Leanne Jackson, 6 Hudson Ave., Rostrevor, SA 5073; Janet Scott, 181 Marion Road,

Richmond, SA 5033, & June Tuckey, 21 Vagnoni Ave., Paradise, SA 5075. Photocopied, 33pp.

There is no obvious information on availability in all three zines, but would be available to members.

#### THE MENTOR

Editor, Ron L. Clarke, 6 Bellevue Road, Faulconbridge, NSW 2776, Australia. Duplicated, 42pp. Articles, fiction & LoC column. Artwork good. Available for the usual or A\$1 per copy.

#### CYGNUS SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

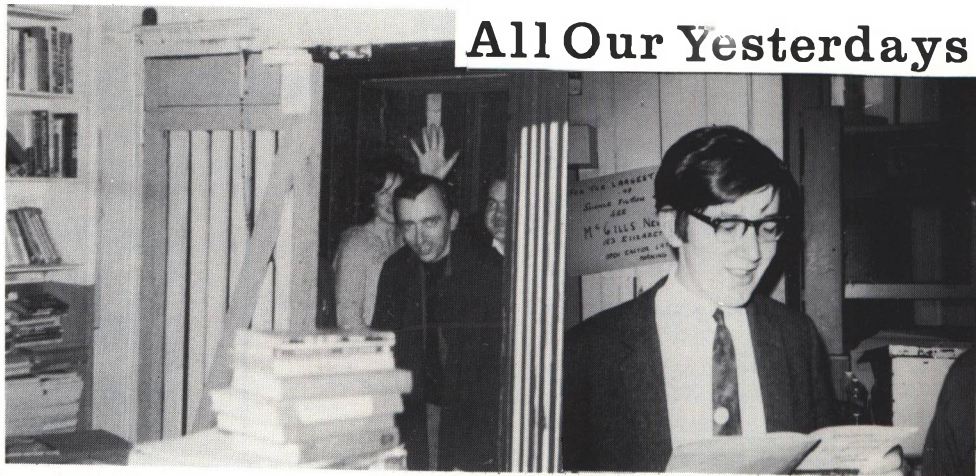
edited by Neville J. Angove, The Eperex Press, GPO Box 770, Canberra, ACT 2601. This is the only magazine that as well as reviewing sf and f, actually publishes fiction. CYGNUS is a labour of love, fully type set and well illustrated. It is a step in the direction towards the fully professional sf magazine that Australian sf needs and merits the support of all sf readers in Australia. The excellent artwork of Michael Dutkiewicz is a feature of the current issue, (#17, dated June 1983), as usual. It contains stories by E.J. Travers, Paul Collins, Joan Mabbutt and Rick Kennett.

THYME is produced by Roger Weddall, of 79 Bell Street, Fitzroy, 3065, Victoria. The Australian sf news magazine for fans who think that ASFN is too professional or something, and besides it manages to beat us to the punch most of the time. The 28th issue is worth reading for Harlan Ellison's comments on the previous issue and in particular the report by Christine Ashby on SYNCON '83 and Ellison's appearance there. Lovely!

#### AUSTRALASIAN DR WHO NEWSLETTER

Editor, Dallas Jones, c/- P.O. Box 148, Gladesville, NSW 2111, Australia. As the title suggests, the newsletter keeps fans up to date on happenings concerning Dr. Who. Available on subscription, Australia \$2-6 issues, \$3-10 issues, \$5-15 issues; N.Z. A\$3-1 year. Also published by the Aust. Dr. Who Fan Club is ZERINZA, which is available on subscription or through bookshops (inc. SPACE AGE, which brought you this valuable information!!)

## All Our Yesterdays



The infamous old Melbourne Science Fiction Club lift at 19 Somerset Place, with Merv Barrett, John Straede and friend. On the left is a very youthful Lea (or is it Leigh) Edmonds. These photos were taken by club members in the 1960s. A correction on last month's photo: it featured Dr Dick Janssen, Deputy Chairman of the Melbourne University Meteorology Department, not the head of the department.





# Galaxy

BOOKSHOP

SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY SPECIALISTS

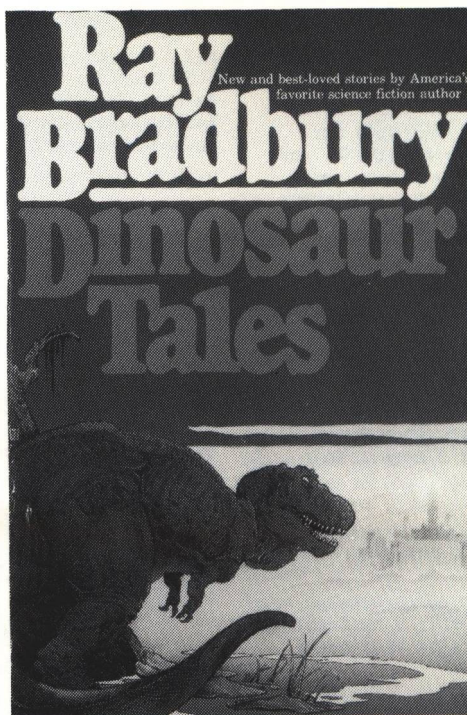
## A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF BOOKS

OUR NEW CHECKLIST IS NOW AVAILABLE -  
SEND \$1.00 NOW (TO COVER POSTAGE  
AND HANDLING) FOR YOUR COPY

106 A BATHURST STREET, SYDNEY 2000

PHONE: (02) 267 7630

 **CORGI** and **BANTAM**   
BOOKS



A COLLECTION  
OF  
NEW AND  
FAMOUS  
TALES  
BY  
ONE OF THE  
MOST  
POPULAR  
AND BEST  
LOVED  
AUTHORS IN  
THE FANTASY  
AND  
SCIENCE  
FICTION  
FIELD!

**\$7.95** ARP

ILLUSTRATED BY BILL STOUT & OTHERS  
ON SALE NOW AT ALL BOOKSHOPS

# STAR TREK

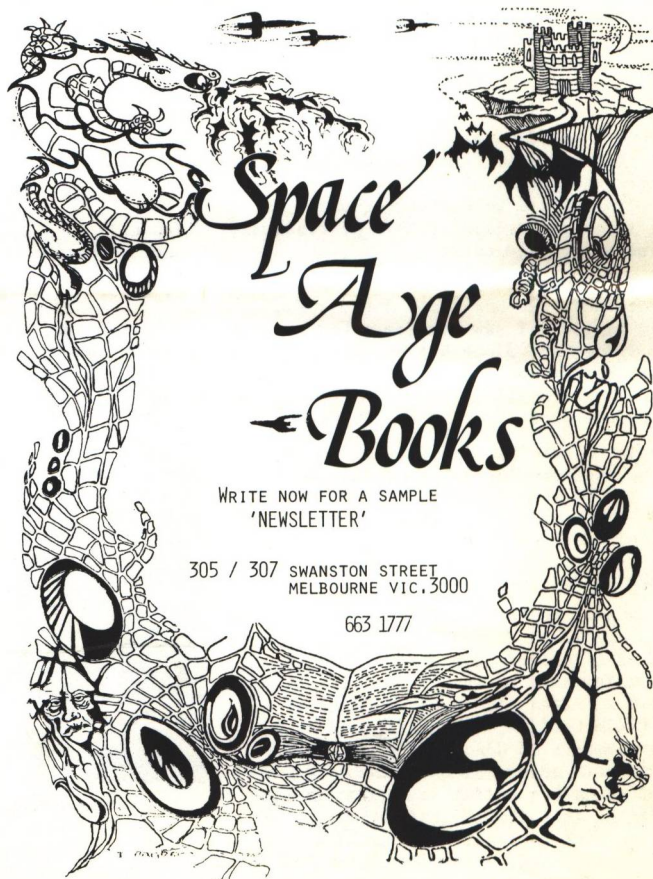
SCIENCE FICTION  
BOOKS, FANZINES, MODELS  
& PHOTOS  
FOR SALE

ON  
STAR TREK, TWILIGHT ZONE,  
AND  
OTHER  
SCIENCE FICTION SHOWS

WRITE OR CALL FOR LIST

R. JOHNSON  
26 College Street,  
Sydney  
Phone: 367-6138 (Anzac House)

A GATEWAY TO THE FANTASY WORLDS OF PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE!



WRITE NOW FOR A SAMPLE  
'NEWSLETTER'

305 / 307 SWANSTON STREET  
MELBOURNE VIC. 3000

663 1777