

## THYME SIX

THYME is edited and published by Andrew Brown, 5 York St., Prahran, Vic. 3181 (phone: (03) 51-7702), and Irwin Hirsh, 279 Domain Rd., South Yarra, Vic. 3181 (phone: (03) 26-1966), Australia. Available for trade (1 copy each preferred), news or subscription: 6 for \$2.00 (within Australia or overseas surface) or 3 for \$2.00 (overseas airmail). British agent: Joseph Nicholas, Room 9, 94 St. George's Square, Pimlico, London SW1Y 3QY, UK. North American agents: Teresa and Patrick Nielsen Hayden, 4712 Fremont Ave N, Seattle, WA 98103, USA. An 'X' after your name indicates that this is your last issue unless you Do Something. Registered by Australia Post - publication no. VBH2625. 18 October 1981

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A NOTE FOR AUSTRALIAN READERS: Many of you will be somewhat nonplussed at finding this slim blue publication nested with your first Tschaicon publicity bulletin. Let me explain: THYME is a (approximately) three-weekly fanzine which seeks to keep its readers informed about what is happening on the Australian science fiction scene. We feel that no one else in Australia is providing exactly this kind of service, though many fanzines are helpful in disseminating news to the fan community. What we would like to ask from you is two things - news, so we can fill these pages, and money, so we can afford to publish them. We look forward to hearing from you.

- Andrew Brown

FOLLOWING the recent demise of the Australian bid for the 1983 Worldcon, we asked Jack Herman, the chairman of the bidding committee, for his views on the bid and the impending Melbourne in '85 bid. Jack's statement is as follows:

"Sydney's handling of the 83 bid was not optimum, but there has been a genuine attempt to involve Australian fandom. My opinion is that the expertise necessary to run a Worldcon cannot be found in any one Australian city. Both 75 and 79 were cons based on the work of fans from more than one section of Australia or Britain.

However, there are good reasons to suggest that the level of activity at which Sydney fans have been involved since mid 1978 means a number of those connected with A83 will be unwilling to devote time to a 1985 bid. Personally, I do not feel motivated to participate in the CORE of an 85 bid, not because of the supposed "flak" aimed at the 83 bid, which was rarely heard by the committee, but because I would like the time off.

I support the idea of an Australian bid for the 85 Worldcon. I would rather see that committee interstate than in Sydney, but using the human resources available around Australia - both in the bid, and when successful in the con itself. I would like to help but not in the day-to-day way a Sydney in 85 bid would involve.

I see no cause for a fan-feud in a Melbourne bid for the 85 Worldcon. In fact, I wish the bid committee the best of luck and offer them my help and experience - if they want to utilise the skills of those outside Batman's village on the Yarra.

These views are, of course, mine and do not reflect, necessarily, those of any other Sydney fan nor those of

any sane person."

FOR VARIOUS personal reasons, which we won't go into here, Sally Underwood is reverting to her original name of Sally Deasley, which is how she wishes to be known in fan circles from now on. Sally also reports that the venue of Swancon 7 has been changed from the George to the Westos Motor Inn, and that the wedding of Roy Ferguson and Julia Curtis has been announced for late November.

A BOY AND HIS CON: Our favourite Sydney correspondent tells us that the guest of honour at Syncon '83 will be Harlan Ellison. We admire the bravery of the Syncon committee, but we wouldn't fancy being in their shoes.

Our correspondent also sent us this report on Circulation:

" CIRCULATION: a relaxacon held in Canberra October 3-5

Sounds innocent enough, doesn't it ? But when we heard that it was headed by the notorious Weberwoman, with the infamous Tolutz le Trek (purveyor to fandom of sex, drugs, rock and roll, self-proclaimed guardian of fandom's immorality) as Mascot, we recognised it as an attack on fannish decency. We knew we'd have to be there.

Beiltro, the man from TWAGA, was there. We made contact. (That he's a MAOist plant HENTFALUMP knew: of course politics and morality have nothing to do with each other - but was it mere coincidence that CROGM was in Canberra that weekend ?) He seemed to have dropped from the sky impeccably clad in suit and tie: a guise that would never do. "Get it off!" Itold him. I had made the trip stowed away in the vehicle of Tolutz himself: it was a hell of a journey. There was bad news. Schmidt, who'd been infiltrating the Smithfield mob, had been nobbled back in Syn City: he wouldn't be down. But the Tatter was taking over their computer installations.

The forces lined up against us were formidable. Weberwoman, with Big Momma Hyde, her enforcer. Tolutz himself. The Syn city mob, there in force. The big, bionic Porno Bunny, known to us as a pusher of that Vile Evil Goocy Effluent of Malefic Insidious Toxic Effect. L'Edmonds offering for sale pornographic fanzines. "I'll -just-blow-'em-all-up" Lindsay, hung about with a dozen kinds of booze: I was forced to test them all. Censoring immorality calls for such sacrifices. The Smithfield Four flashing subliminal images of smut across the screen. We knew what they were up to - nameless orgies followed them. Beiltro was in the thick of it. To avoid a demarcation dispute, I left the sex to him, and concerned myself with other varieties of immorality. Brown Valma was selling Sao biscuits for Melbourne in 85. It seemed innocent enough. I took one. Too late I realised they'd been doped to trigger my were-dormouse change.

When I awoke, it was all over. I'd been kidnapped back to Syn City by Marc the Fence.

But it had been worth it. We'd found out what it all meant: a plot to take over Ghod's Own Country, America - Operation DUFF was it's codename. It's motto - have a "P" for DUFF.

Don't be taken in

by it."

Thank you, Judith Hanna.

And on the subject of people named Hanna - our fab gear British agent, Joseph "KITT" Nicholas, emphatically denies that Marc Ortlieb is an ex-member of TWAGA (So does Marc, for that matter), as leaked to us by Judith. "I wish to take this opportunity to state categorically that there is no truth at all, etc....", writes Joseph in his best Whitechapel manner.

STOP PRESS: Irwin having dropped in a letter from Peter Toluzzi while I was typing these stencils, we can now report that Sycon '83 will be held on June 10-13, 1983, probably at the New Crest in King's Cross. Peter confirms that the foreign GOH will be Harlan Ellison, and adds that the local GOH is Van Ekin. Progress reports will be forthcoming after the next concom meeting later this month. Planning is also underway for Syncon '82, to be held in late August or the October long weekend.

Please note that Peter's new address is 12 Georgina St., Newtown, NSW 2042, which he shares with Rob McGough and Marc Griffen.

DUFF: Nominations close October 31, 1981. Competitors at the moment are Daryl Mannell, Derrick Ashby, Damien Brennan, and Peter Toluzzi. Derrick Ashby reports that Keith Curtis, the current DUFF administrator, is showing a remarkable lack of alacrity in confirming his nomination.

FANARCHY RULES, OK ? At hand is this recent release from the Federal Executive office of the Fanarchist Party of Australia (P. O. Box 433, Civic Square, ACT 2608):

#### "FANARCHISTS RELEASE DETAILS OF TOP SECRET GOVERNMENT REPORT

Today, a highly placed member of the Fanarchist Party of Australia released details of a top level Government policy document which had fallen off the back of a truck.

The report, which was prepared by officers of the Department of Home Affairs, discussed ways in which one of the lesser known recommendations of the recent Review of Government Functions - commonly known as the "Razor Gang" - could be implemented.

"The report heralds new Government initiatives which could potentially mean a far reaching restructuring of Government subsidised reading in this country", said the Party official. "The report proposes, inter alia, selling off the stocks of libraries at Commonwealth, State and Local Government level.". The Party spokesman continued, "The Department of Home Affairs calculated that, by selling off existing holdings, all levels of Government could realise many millions of dollars. Further, the savings which could be made in staffing and by not acquiring new stocks would also be substantial."

"The report recognises the fact that while many sectors of the community make extensive use of public libraries, most people do not use them. The report also suggests that the library service fails to meet one of the most important aspects of Government policy, that the user should pay for facilities provided by the public sector. The major thrust of the recommendations of this report", the Party official emphasised, "is to move the lucrative reading market squarely into the hands of the private sector by forcing readers to build their own

libraries. The report finds that a great expansion of the publishing business in Australia will lead to a consequent upturn in the national economy."

In commenting on the report, the Party spokesman stated that while the FPA was not opposed, in principle, to this policy being carried forward by the Government, he could foresee some party members (who were librarians or used libraries) possibly objecting to the proposed move. "However, as most fans maintain their own libraries I don't think that this policy will affect them to any great extent," he said. "I would expect that this matter could be debated at the next Party Congress. One possibility already being considered is that of making a proposal to the relevant Minister that the many library buildings which will be vacated could be used to house community science fiction clubs which could be formed to fill a long standing community need."

The FPA spokesman concluded, "The FPA has long held that our public lending institutions have not been giving sf its rightful place on their shelves. We might suggest to Government that it implement part of its program to dispose of the libraries less important holdings in order to better emphasise the importance of science fiction in modern day life".

VARIOUS SOURCES report that plans for Medvention 3, which was to have been held on December 3-5 at the Hydro Majestic, Mdelow Bath, some distance outside of sydney, have fallen through. The cost of the venue seems to be the main reason. Alternative venues are currently being looked into. (Peter Toluzzi/Diane Fox)

IF ANDREW BROWN was a better editor, he would have stuck this following snippet just below Judith Hanna's CIRCULATION report. Judith reports that she sold a story to the AUSTRALIAN WOMAN'S WEEKLY - "...not printed as I wrote it, but considerably cut down...". As Judith neglected to mention it, and I was unable to locate a copy with "...Princess Di in a mauve hat on the cover...", I can't tell you the title of this magnum opus.

THE NEXT NEW ZEALAND CONVENTION will be OCTACON, in Dunedin, on their Queens Birthday weekend, 4-7 June 1982, reports Vera Lonergan. Vera goes on to say that "This will be the Worlds's southernmost convention and there probably will never be a more southerly site ever." The adress: PO Box 5516, Dunedin, New Zealand. The Australian agent: Vera Lonergan, PO Box 148, Earlwood, NSW 2206. Membership: \$A15 attending, \$A7 supporting, to Vera.

Vera also reports that Greg Hills is bidding for an Australasian convention to be held in Wellington in '84, but nothing further is known at present.

ON THE APA SCENE: Winner of the annual ANZAPA popularity poll (ANZAPOPOPOLL) and thus President Elect of ANZAPA is Leanne Frahm, who thus gains the rare distinction of being honoured by the Australian fan community for both her professional and her fannish activities.

On the international scene, the new editor of SOUTH OF THE MOON, a comprehensive index of apas previously edited by Harry Anduschak, is Denys Howard (1013 N. 36th, Seattle, WA, 98103). Among the 95 apas listed in the current issue (number 18) are:

APA-Filk, a quarterly apa for filksingers. The OE is Robert Bryan Lipton, 556 Greenplace, Woodmere, NY 11598 USA. Copy count is 50, and the minac is 4 pages every 4 mailings.

APA-I, a quarterly apa for indexers, which "...indexes just about everything ...". The OE is Gene Reed, 3708 Lakewood Dr., Huntsville, AL, 35811, USA. The membership limit is 20, the copy count is 25, and minac is 4 pages every mailing.

MENTAT is a monthly apa for computer fans. OE: Robert Sacks, 4861 Broadway, Apt. 5V, New York, NY 10034 usa. Copy count is 50, minac is 2 pages every 4 mailings.

And much, much more - for copies of SOUTH OF THE MOON, I suggest sending SAE's and IMO's to Denys Howard at the address above. (FILE 770/SOIM)

IT'S THAT MAN AGAIN: From Joseph Nicholas, we have the following concerning the putative 1984 British Worldcon bid:

"The British bid for the 1984 Worldcon...has been sprung on us all as a total surprise. There was some desultory talk, at the Birmingham SF Group's 10th Anniversary Party over the last weekend in June, of putting together a bid for 1987, the theory being that the five years between now and the voting deadline of 1985 would give the putative committee long enough to get it off the ground but not so long that they'd run out of steam (Peter Weston has an idea that the Britain really won its bid in 1977 solely because of the committee's persistence: they were still jumping up and down about it long after others had fallen by the wayside). But no one came rushing forward to volunteer...those who organised the 1979 affair are still too bushed (or, more likely by now, know better) and those who might have involved themselves with 1987 seem instead to have some connection with a possible Eurocon bid for 1984, proposed by Chris Priest in a moment of madness...but now helmed by Eurocon veteran John Brunner.

And there matters stood until a few days ago, when British fans returning from Denvention began to speak of the way in which they had been right royally been shafted by the putative 1984 committee, who had prepared numerous flyers for Jan Howard Finder to hand out "...in the event of Sydney's losing...", but without telling them anything about it...leaving them in the embarrassing position of being approached for further information but being unable to provide it (not to mention, I'm reliably informed, being threatened with actual physical harm by an irate LA in '84 supporter, incensed at this "underhand Limey trick"). And I can sympathise with them...to the extent of not supporting the bid at all, in the first place because it would clash with the Eurocon bid, in the second because if it won in 1982 it would completely scupper Melbourne's chances of winning in 1983, and in the third because anyone who thinks that a viable Worldcon bid can be put together, publicised widely, gain substantial support and win in less than 12 months is quite clearly living in a bloody dreamworld.

Piss on Britain

in 1984! is my motto..."

In my opinion (Andrew Brown's, that is: I don't speak for Irwin when I write this), it is of the utmost importance to the Australia in '85 bid that the Britain in '84 bid should not succeed. One way of encouraging this to happen is to support the LA in '84 bid. To do this, you must join Chicon, the 1982 Worldcon (PO Box A3120, Chicago, IL 60690 USA); supporting memberships are currently \$US15. You will then be eligible to vote in the 1982 site selection, for which you will need to pay a \$10 membership in the name of the 42nd World Science Fiction Convention. I say - LA in '84 !

#### SOME RECENT FANZINES - Reviewed by Irwin Hirsh

OUT OF THE BLUE 3. Edited by Harry Bell, 9 Lincoln St., Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, NE8 4EE, UK and Kevin Williams, 9 Whitton Place, Seaton Delaval, Northumberland, UK. Available for trade, letter of comment or a \$1 bill. 34 pages, quarto, mimeo.

This is the best fanzine to arrive here in the last 2-3 months, and quite possibly the whole year. In a rather unassuming package, Harry and Kevin present a strong selection of writing, including a chapter of Peter Roberts' TATT report and a transcript of Bob Shaw's 1980 (?) Eastercon speech (with the now obligatory Jim Barker illustrations). Andy Firth writes about whistling, Bruce Townley covers a variety of topics in his column and the editors have their columns. Of the two editors, Kevin is probably the better writer, but Harry more than makes up for it by being one of fandom's best artists, and as expected provides his own fanzine with some fine art. The selection of art from others is also strong and a lot of editorial thought has been put into selecting the right artist for each different article. Unfortunately, Harry and Kevin tend to spoil it a bit by 3 times committing the sin of having an illo on either side of a double page spread - a layout that hardly ever works in a mimeod fanzine, and doesn't really work here. A pity about that, but fortunately the overall layout is of the straightforward, neat style I've come to expect from the better British fanzines. Highly recommended.

TAPPEN 1, edited by Malcolm Edwards, 28 Druckett Rd., London N4 1EN, UK.

Available for the usual (I guess). 34 pages, quarto, mimeo.

This fanzine arrived on the same day as OOTB, and after reading through the two I didn't find it hard to believe that the British fanzine scene is where it's at, for this is also a fine fanzine. The way in which Malcolm presents his material is that he'll talk about one or two topics, then present an article, then go back to a few of the things he has in mind to talk about etc. Malcolm tals about such things as his early days in fandom, life as a slush pile reader, the Hugos; the people who contribute include Chris Atkinson, Chris Evans, Leroy Kettle and Greg Pickersgill. Chris Evans provides the best read in talking about his experiences working for a drug production company. An interesting thing about this issue is that the only piece of art is the cover; yet it still looks better than just about all Australian fanzines, most of which feel it's necessary to print tons of artwork. I wonder when fan editors in this country will realise that good layout is not a direct result of more illustrations, but the way in which they are used.

AND SO TO BED: Before I finish this stencil, I'd like to thank Judith Hanna, Jack Herman and Joseph Nicholas, in particular, for their contributions to this issue. I'd also like to thank John Foyster, who will be duplicating this issue tomorrow. AB 23.03 17/10/81



# TSCHAICON.

FIRST AUSTRALASIAN  
S.F. CONVENTION •  
MELBOURNE • APRIL 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>  
• 1982 •

GOH • JACK VANCE •  
AUSTRALIAN GOH • LEANNE FRAHM  
FAN GOH • ERIC B. LINDSAY

THYME VOL.1 NO.6.

TSCHAICON PROGRESS

REPORT NO.1.

OCTOBER 1981.

TSCHAICON  
G.P.O. BOX 2708 X  
MELBOURNE  
VICTORIA 3001.

Venue:  
The Melbourne Townhouse,  
701 Swanston Street,  
Carlton,  
Victoria.

Theme:  
Science Fantasy.

## COMMITTEE:

Justin Ackroyd	- Chairman/Treasurer
Jan McDonnell	- Secretary
Daryl Mannell	- Hotel Liaison
Paul J. Stevens	- Hucksters/Films
Mandy Herriot & Phil Ware	- Art Show/Auction/Awards
Andrew Brown	- Security/Banquet
Terry Dowling	- V.I.P. Liaison
John Foyster	- Programming.
The Committee	- Promotions/Publicity

## INTERSTATE AGENTS

New South Wales	-	Peter Toluzzi 12 Georgina St., Newtown, 2042.
South Australia	-	Marc Ortlieb 1/2 Water St., Kensington Park, 5068.
Western Australia	-	Sally Beasley 13 Baillie Ave., East Victoria Park, 6101.

### MEMBERSHIP RATES

Supporting: \$7.50.

Attending: \$20.00 until Dec. 31st 1981.  
\$25.00 Jan. 1st - Apr. 5th 1982.  
\$30.00 at the door.

Day memberships ( at the door only )  
are \$10.00 per day.

### \*\*\*\*\*SPECIAL NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

When making payments of any kind,  
please make the cheques or money orders  
payable to TSCHAICON.

### Hucksters

Huckstering space, which will be on  
tables in the same room as the art show  
and displays, will be sold for the four  
full days of the convention only.

The rates are:

Professional - \$100.00 for four days  
Fan - \$50.00 for four days.

This set of rates includes one mem-  
bership fee.

It would be appreciated if all hucksters  
that are interested could reserve selling  
space, which will be allocated on a  
first come/ first serve basis, as soon  
as possible.

Information on the ART SHOW will be in PR 2.

### HOTEL ROOM BOOKINGS

Hotel room bookings will not be accepted  
until Progress Report No.2 has been re-  
leased. PR 2 will contain a booking form.

### Book and Magazine Auction

Tschaicon's auction will be the last  
chance for people to see Keith Curtis  
in action as he is "retiring" from the  
auction scene. After Tschaicon's auction  
Keith intends to spend the rest of his  
days as a member of the audience, bid-  
ding for those rare items that he is  
seeking.

The auction itself will have a running  
time of two hours and a limit of 150  
items. We request that anyone intending  
to enter any items into the auction,  
should forward a detailed catalogue of  
the items ( listing all relevant details:  
condition - mint, fine, good, fair or poor  
- edition and reserve price ) to:

TSCHAICON - Auction  
GPO BOX 2708 X  
Melbourne,  
Victoria, 3001.

and that we receive the catalogue by  
March 8th 1982.

All items must be from the field of  
science fiction or fantasy, or have as-  
sociations to the fields - e.g. mysteries  
by Jack Vance.

The conventions commission on all  
items sold is 15%.

SMOFFCON 1  
\*\*\*\*\*

\$10.00 attending membership  
\$18.00/ night for accomodation (details later, includes bed & breakfast)  
\$2.50 lunch probably available.

[illegible]

What is on the programme? We aren't telling. Now, most convention organisers could say that in their first report - because they don't know! With Smoffcon this may be the case, but it isn't the reason. In keeping with the name of the con - such a felicitous coincidence - it (the programme) is being kept a secret.

Who is the GoH? That's a secret too. All we can tell you at the moment is what won't be on the programme.

1. Robert Silverberg reading from his own works.
2. An Easter Egg hunt.
3. A meet the authors sauna.
4. Big name overseas guests.
5. Little name overseas guests.
6. Massage and back-rubbing parties.
7. Fanzine pocker games.
8. Wang girls.
9. Business sessions.
10. Big cash prizes for D & D players.
11. ...

That'll do, before we lose all our friends.

A certain lady fan from Melbourne assures us that she will be going to Smoffcon just to feel naughty. In her days female persons had to be out of Trinity College by 6 pm.

If you feel like coming along and organising one of the items listed above, we won't stop you - we'll just demand a cut.

Membership of Smoffcon will probably give you access to some university facilities - the swimming pool, for example.

\*\*\*\*\*

\* Close to the fleshpots of Carlton.

ACCOMODATION

If you wish to stay at the College please fill this out and return it to us.  
We need to know details of room booking by Monday 14th December.

NAME: .....

ADDRESS:.....

Type of accomodation

SINGLE (\$18) ...      TWIN (\$25) ...

If you want to share, please tell us who you are going to share with.  
WE WILL NOT ARRANGE THIS!

WILL SHARE WITH: .....

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

MELBOURNE IN '85

In 1975 one of the most unusual and interesting World Science Fiction Conventions ever held took place in Melbourne, Australia. In 1985 we plan to do it again.

An experienced and professional committee has already begun planning what we expect will be one of the best Worldcons ever to be held. Certainly it will be smaller than recent Worldcons, but for that very reason it will be more relaxed, more intimate, more enjoyable. It will be different... and better.

You can support us in many ways. You can help to distribute our literature, you can run advertisements for us in your fanzines, you can buy our T-shirts, badges, and other materials we'll soon have available, or otherwise make a small donation. Or you can just write to us, letting us know you are interested.

Melbourne in '85 bidding committee

John Foyster, chairman

Christine Ashby, treasurer

Derrick Ashby, fund-raiser

Peter Darling, secretary

David Grigg, publicity

Paul Stevens, media