# 1985 WORLDCON SELECTION DEADLINE PASSED: MELBOURNE THE ONLY CONTENDER

MELBOURNE IN 85 will be the only bid for the 1935 World ST Convention listed on the official ballot paper to be distributed when a vote is taken on the matter at CONSTELLATION, the next WorldCon. The deadline for inclusion on the ballot was the lst of March. Any hids received after that date will be eligible as write in candidates, but at this late stage, the appearance of another, serious bid would be, well, unlikely? And on the subject of CONSTELLATION, to be held early in September, in Paltimore, Maryland, their Progress Report #3 lists 3,589 people as members, 141 of these being Australians. If you would like to join (to vote, or maybe even to go), or have already joined but haven't heard anything from them yet and would like to know why, the person to contact is the Australian agent for the Con, Carey Mandfield, Pox 91, Carlton 3053, Australia, or Pascal Thomas, the French agent (if you live in Europe, of course), at 11bis rue Vasco de Gama, 75015 Paris, France. The current rate for a Supporting Membership, which enables you to vote for the Mugos, and in the Site Selection process, costs US\$15 until the 1st of July.

Speaking of the Mugos, the deadline for nominations for those awards has passed, the likely final five contenders for the Movel being 2010: Oddyssev Two, The Sword of the Lictor, Battlefield Earth, Foundation's Edge and Friday, but not necessarily in that order. The list of 'Preliminary Nebula Mominations' are out, and going by this list it would seem that Helliconia Spring by Brian Aldiss, and Michael Bishop's No Enemy But Time are also popular, but between the general fame of "the hig three" (Clarke, Asimov, Heinlein) and the Scientologists' backing for the Mubbard novel, their chances for an award voted on by the public would not seem high.

Meanwhile, it is not certain that L.Fon Hubbard (founder of Scientology and well-known collector of ocean going yachts) is even alive. He has been described as either dead or senile in a suit filed by his son, Ponald E Dewolf, who wants the courts to take control of his father's financial empire. The petition claims that Hubbard has not been seen since March, 1980, that his father's mental health has been failing, and that a small band of Scientology church officials have been pilfering the church's assets, valued at somewhere between \$100 million and \$1,000 million. The action has not yet come to court, and people are arguing that the appearance of Battlefield Earth proves he's alive, while some say it's reasonable evidence he's not. Are we seeing the completion (from notes?) of a work written long ago? Pursuant to this, another novel has been announced, Mission Farth, 2.5 million words long, to be released in 12 parts, the first volume of which is scheduled to appear later in '83.

## TAN FUNDS, FAN FUNDS EVERNMERE

TAFF - the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund

Avedon Carol, an East Coast American fan, easily won this year's race (figures below) and will attend Britain's Albacon 2 this Easter.

Candidate	Europe	North America	Total
AVEDON CAROL	34	35	69
LARRY CARMODY	4	23	32
GRANT CAMPIELD	7	10	1.7
TARAL	2	12	14

SUFF - Scandinavia - UK Fan Fund

Ahrvid Engholm, active Swedish fan, is campaigning to start yet another fan fund, this one to initially bring across a well-known Brit fan to Swecon '83 (Stockholm 17-20 August), and hopefully to continue on as a yearly, reciprocal thing. Well, who knows... it is undoubtedly (yet another) worthwhile idea; and yet I can't help wondering how many "fan charities" such as this we'll eventually end up with. As it is, people are already making noises about whether the whole idea of such funds is not redundant. Look at the incredible business of GUFF. Nevertheless, for the moment one can only offer support for SUFF, it's aims are noble ones. If you would like to find out more about the idea, write to Ahrvid at Maskinistgatan 9 öb, S-11747, Stockholm.

FFANZ - THE FAN FUND OF AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

Here follows a list of candidates, their seconders & nominators, and each candidates 'platform' (a brief resume, not necessarily serious, explaining why they should win the contest).

MICHELLE MUYSERT (Wellington) Nominated by Greg Hills, seconded by Alex Heatley and Marc Ortlieb.

'Incredible as it may seem, Michelle has been around in NZ fandom for only just over a year. From humble beginnings (a 3-hour video evening transformed into a 24-hour socialthon) she has... progressed... to bigger and better things, such as faangathers throwing her own parties, and 48-hour socialthons. Taking (or should that be making) over the Wellington party scene, she has gone on to probe the con-scene in the deep south\*, and establish closer relations with Auckland fans. Now, older and wiser, she is casting her sight farther afield, to places like Australia and Eketahuna. What strange, new rituals can she learn? Can you teach an Australian the Timewarp? There's only one way to find out: Muysert for FFANZ!'

GRAHAM FERNER (Auckland) Nominated by Michelle Muysert, seconded by Jack R. Herman and Tom Cardy.

'Graham's lifestyle is of an entirely fannish nature; he lives in a slanshack with 3 other fen, feeds on a diet of Bheer, cookies and vegemite, spends his time indulging in fan publishing or attending fannish social events in order to catch up on the latest gossip about himself, he will draw illos for any fan who asks him, he never sleeps around; and he has a cat. Though young in years, Graham has been anactive fan since before NZ's first convention 5 years ago, when he founded a small Auckland of society and began his fan publishing career. He is one of those faneds who is fast getting a name for himself, other than the usual ones... even he himself speculated that "by 1989 (he) would be such a MM BNF that the Aussies would have to pay a fortune to get (him) over to be Pro GoM at one of their cons". This would tend to suggest that if he was brought over to Australia for FFANE in 1983 you Aussies wouldn't need to bother in 1989 and could thus save yourselves a mint, by getting in before the rush. Graham is quite definitely the most suited faan to win FFANE as even the other candidates will be quick to agree; after all, it was them who nominated him.'

TOM CARDY (Dunedin) Nominated by Vera Lonergan, seconded by Rex Thompson and ...

'I have been involved in NZ fandom for 4 years, and during this time the links I have forged in many aspects of fandom justify my travelling to Australia. These include: attending all four National Conventions; travelling extensively throughout NZ in 1979 to meet fen; editing two major fanzines, one-shots, and newsletters; as

Hi, all you penguin lovers!

<sup>&#</sup>x27; Well, that's what he says.

# ...last chance... la F F A N Z ast chance... last c

# The Fan Fund of Australia and New Zealand

It's frightening, simply frightening. A little while ago we had just started, and now FFANZ is nearing it's climax. Originally, it was our intention to close off the votes by Easter, but that would deny us any votes that might be gathered at FUNCON, here in Melbourne over the Easter weekend. So now voting will close at midnight on Sunday, April the 3rd.

To recap a bit then, FFANZ, the Fan Fund of Australia and New Zealand, which intends to bring a New Zealand fan over to Australia for SYNCON 83, has four candidates, and the one chosen by the votes of fen in OZ and NZ will be announced during the closing ceremony of FUNCON on the 4th of April. If you are attending FUNCON you will be able to vote there, or just fill the form at the bottom of this page.

FFANZ fund raising has gone well. At SWANCON 8 the auction provided \$34, and the sale of "Friend Of FFANZ" badges brought in another \$30. Donations from Marc Ortlieb, Andrew Taubman and Peter Toluzzi (who had done some scrounging for us) added another \$35. Income from voting is approaching \$30, and Katrina Swansbra, who had been running her own 'New Zealand - Australia Fan Fund' for years contributed over \$50! Wonderfull!

At the moment, then, the account in Melbourne stands at \$307.31 ! At last word, we had around NZ\$200, so our winner is definitely going to get over here. Now the next thing is to get them around this inconveniently large country. Let's face it, the fen in Perth, who have contributed so much one way or another, really want to be part of the tour!

So keep those cards and letters (with money attached) coming in.

Also please keep sending votes, with at least \$2 attached, for your particular favorite, and remember that you may, but do not have to, vote for 1, 2, 3 or 4 of the candidates, in descending order. (#1 is top!!)

I'd like to make a special request for material to be auctioned at FUNCON for FFANZ. It's our last chance to raise money before the annoucement of the winner (tho there's not any reason we can't do it after as well!).

In New Zealand, the offical announcement of the winner will be made at the NASF 1983 Annual General Meeting on the 17th of April.

As this is the last flyer before the votes are counted and announcements made, I'd like to thank all the people and organizations that have helped make this fund the obvious success it is going to be!!!

	FFANZ - Voting Form	
Graham Ferner	"This is my vote for the 1983 FFANZ ballot.  I have placed a '1' in the box next to my	
Michelle Muysert	first preference, and may have numbered the others as 2nd, 3rd and 4th preferences."	
Nigel Rowe	Name:	
Tom Cardy	Address: O Well ab all puniquants (1. 7) ans 320	
L aff Jenera di Sil on o	Signed	
one who is to endorse t	re known to the administrator, please get some-	
Address:	Signed	
least \$2 attached to it	st reach an administrator by April 3rd, with at The administrators are: John Newman, PO Box 4, 71,AUSTRALIA & Frank Macskasy Jnr,POB 27274 Wellingto	

#### FFANZ Candidates Platforms

#### GRAHAM FERNER

Graham's lifestyle is of an entirely fannish nature, he lives in a slan shack with three other fen, feeds on a diet of Bheer, cookies and Vegemite, spends his time indulging in fan publishing or attending fannish social events in order to catch up on the latest gossip about himself, he will draw illo's for any fan who asks him, he never sleeps around and he has a cat. Though young in years, Graham has been an active fan since before New Zealand's first convention five years ago, when he founded a small Auckland SF society and began his fan publishing career. He is one of those faneds who is fast getting a name for himself, other than the usual ones ..even he once speculated that, "by 1989 he would be such a BNF that the Aussies would have to pay a fortune to get him over to Pro GOH one of their cons". This would tend to suggest that if he was brought over to Australia for FFANZ in 1983 you Aussies wouldn't need to bother in 1989 and could thus save yourselves quite a mint, by getting in before the rush.

Graham is quite definately by all accounts the most suited faan to win FFANZ as even the other candidates will be quick to agree, after all, is was them who nominated him.

#### MICHELLE MUYSERT

Increadible as it may sound, Michelle has been around NZ fandom for only just over a year. From humble beginnings (a 3-hour video evening transformed into a 24-hour socialthon) she has ... progressed ... to bigger and better things, such as Faangathers, throwing her own parties, and 48-hour socialthons. Taking---or should that be making---over the Wellington partyscene, she has gone on to probe the con-scene in the deep south, and establish closer relations with Auckland fen. Now, older and wiser, she is casting her sight farther afield, to places like Australia and Eketahuna. What strange new rituals can she learn? Can you teach an Australian the Timewarp? There's one way to find out: MUYSERT FOR FFANZ!

#### NIGEL ROWE

"My next guest has often been described as the 'Collector' behind NZ science fiction fandom. Indeed his legendary quests for free accomodation and long lost zines have taken him the length and breadth of the country. Born in London, England but now living in Auckland, New Zealand, although he has no longer left England than Jan Howard Finder has left Australia. This determined and likeable 19 year old is fascinated by fandom's deepest secrets, traditions and histories and a frequent expounder of these sometimes long forgotten details. Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Nigel Rowe."

#### TOM CARDY

"I have been around in NZ fandom for four years, and during this time the links I have forged in many aspects of fandom justify my travelling to Australia. These include: attending all four national conventions; travelling extensively throughout NZ in 1979 to meet fen; editing 2 major fanzines, one-shots and newsletters; as Official Editor of AOTEARAPA for nearly three years; and regularly trade, corresponding and contribute to NZ fanzines. On a local level I have helped administer Dunedin NASF since 1978, and was an organiser of OCTACON in 1982. In Australia I am known primarily in APPLESAUCE since 1980, and in the odd trade or contribution to fanzines.

Finally there are two minor reasons: as a money hungry student I cannot afford to travel otherwise, and, secondly, at last I can socialise with Australian fen and consume large quantities of cheap Fosters Lager!

Thyme #23

Official Editor of Aotearapa for nearly 3 years; and regularly trade, correspond with and contribute to NZ fanzines. On a local level I have helped administer Dunedin NASF since 1978, and was an organiser of OctaCon in 1982. In Australia I am known primarily in Applesauce since 1980, and in the odd trade or contribution to fanzines.'

NIGEL ROWE (Auckland) Nominated by Sue Dickie, seconded by George Floratos and Roger Weddall.

'My next guest has often been described as the "Collector" behind NZ science fiction fandom. Indeed his legendary quests for free accommodation and long lost zines have taken him the length and breadth of the country. Born in London, England, but now living in Auckland, New Zealand, although he has no more left England than jan howard finder has left Australia. This determined and likeable 19 year old is fandom's deepest secrets\*, traditions, and histories, and is a frequent expounder of these sometimes long-forgotten details†. Ladies and Gentlemen welcome please Nigel Rowe.'

\*secrets? what secrets.

†oh....

So. There you go, those are the four candidates, all you have to do now is to vote for one or more of them. To do this, send your vote (along with a minimum \$2 'donation') to one of the administrators. CLOSING DATE FOR VOTES: RECEIVED BY 31st March.

NEW ZEALAND: Frank Macskasy Jr., PO Box 27274, Wellington 1.

AUSTRALIA: John Mewman, PO Box 4, Thornbury 3071, VIC.

Okay, none of that was too hard to digest, was it? What, then, is one to make of the following announcement by Greg Mills, in the most recent issue of his MZ fanzine, Tanjent 13: A RECANTATION! RE: MUYSERT FOR FFAMZ

(Farlier) Michelle had not announced her decision to go to Australia for Syncon... and not return. At the time I nominated her for FFANZ, she had not even decided to go, so both sides had acted in good faith.

Now, however, Michelle has decided to leave NZ for good after she attends Windycon '83. She'll be travelling on from Syncon to Melbourne and, like me, will be temporarily staying with the Fousters until she/we find a new house/flat/apartment of her/our own.

The "her/our" bit is there simply to cover all possibilities; we do NOT currently plan shacking together, and our decisions to go were made independently, anyway.

Anyway, in light of this it would be best, we have agreed, if we did not push the FFANZ bit. Tom Cardy or Graham Ferner or Nigel Rowe: take your choice!

Greg Hills

What makes this 'announcement'more interesting is that none of it is true. Well, this is what the NZ FFANZ administrator, Frank Macskasy Jr, says, and he should know what's going on better than anyone else - except Michelle, of course, who herself has issued no statement to verify the Greg Hills announcement on her behalf, as one would expect her to do so, if it were true. It would probably not be out of place to mention here that there is currently a fair bit of the substance with the mud-like qualities being flung around in NZ fandom at the moment, especially in NASF circles. There is talk of the rifling of personal papers, lawsuits and 'plots': you get the idea. Paranoia paradise. Disregard the above-printed 'recantation'. MUYSERT IS A CANDIDATE FOR FRANZ.

And FFANZ itself is doing quite well. In NZ the NASF branches have given money, held auctions for the fund, and then there are the donations from individuals. Close to NZ\$200. And in Australia, things are looking just as good. We have ourselves a winner here, folks. Remember: voting closes midnight, 31st of March.

DUFF - DOWN-UNDER FAN FUND (USA-AUSTRALIA-USA-AUSTRALIA-...)

Bit of a lack of information at the moment, what with the transferral of duties of Aussie administrator & all that. Presumably lots of money pouring in, etc.

Not to say that more donations wouldn't help - it costs a lot to send someone overseas, you know! As for FFANZ, voting deadline is the 31st of March.

GUFF (UK-AUS)

Following the publication last issue of the idea espoused by John Foyster, that of a bulk-mailing service to take the place of an Aus candidate for this year's trip, I've received some response. Jean Weber sums up the gist of most opinions (including, coincidentally, mine):

stt vits mant han deten Column -

'Just because no-one's available to stand in a given year does not seem to me to be a cause for alarm. It's unfortunate that some of the people most attractive to fans at the other end of the journey, may just not be able to take the time, or raise the extra money needed, and sending 'just anyone' to use up the money seems a bit silly. I say we keep talking it up, maybe raise a bit of money now and then, but what we've got into a high-interest account, and see who surfaces in a year or two. ((Jean points out that, of course, what with the WorldCon here in Melbourne in '85 - well, almost certainly - there should be no lack of willing candidates from Britain ready to come over for the Con))

'Although I like the idea of bulk-mailing fanzines to and from Great Britain' (assuming that someone could be found at both ends to efficiently forward the zines, which does not mean passing them out personally at the next con in six months' time), I am not in favour of using GUFF money to subsidise such mailings. At least not when the money was raised from people who assumed their funds were going to one purpose. When they discover it's going to another, they might be a bit annoyed. I think I would be, regardless of the merit of the proposal...'

Inother point mentioned by some is that to do a worthwhile job of bulk-mailing, a lot more money would be required at either end than just, say \$100. Thume is supposed to be a newszine, but in this case the editor might just take a punt and suggest that while the idea is essentially a worthy one, it will remain just that: an idea.

## CONVENTION UPDATE

FUNCON

Dates: 1st-4th April (Easter)

Venue: what the heck, just look at the next two pages: that's what flyers are for. Just don't forget to be there: it promises (or is that threatens) to be lotsa fun.

PHANTASTACON 183

Same dates, same city as Funcon. Exact venue, Town House Hotel, Swanston Street, Carlton, Melbourne.

Rates: till 31st March: \$16, or \$12 for students, pensioners.

after(at the con): \$20, or \$16 for pensioners, students.

Day rates: \$6, or \$5 for penguins, salamanders.

Mail: 'Phantastacon'83', PO Box 45, Mitcham 3132, VIC.

Last year this convention had approx. 300 members. Attractions will be \$\$\$\$money prizes in a D&D tournament and other competitions. As I said in the last issue, and it would still appear to hold good, 'no-one (talking about the organisers, now) seems to have any real idea of how (the competitions) are going to work, until they actually happen - who knows, it could be fun to watch the ensuing confusion - or help create it?' That aside, it could well be worthwhile. I mean, they've been doing it for three years, now.

#### ADVENTION 4

Dates: 23rd-25th April

The convention has just issued a flyer with broad programme details. CoMs: Mary Shelley & Wynne Whiteford. Unite the committee for a copy of the flyer; it sounds like a pleasant little affair, and might be worth turning up to just to see what Marc Ortlieb gets to do (or is that whom Marc Ortlieb gets to do) as Crumpet Master. Mails: Advention 4, PO Box 46, Marden 5070, SA.

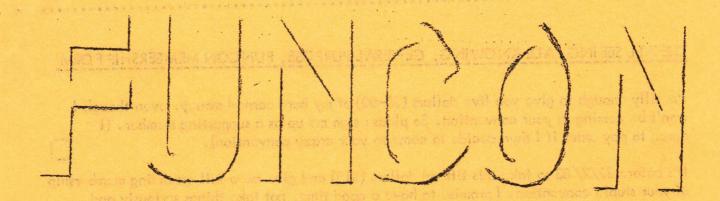
N.B. Hotel bookings must be confirmed soon by all who have made them.

SYNCON '83 - The 22nd Mational Australian SF Convention

Dates: 10th-13th June

Mail: Syncon '83, PO Box A491, Sydney South 2000, MSM.

The main reason for mentioning Syncon this time is because of the Ditmar Awards. The



# FUNCON is a SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

WHEN: EASTER 1983, April 1 to April 4

WHERE: QUEENSLODGE MOTOR INN, 81 Queens Rd. Melbourne

HOW MUCH: \$15 full attending membership (\$17 sober): \$20 after 27 February

\$5 supporting membership (non attending)

WHAT: FUNCON will have the usually wide range of activities to be found at any great Melbourne convention including:

- a MYSTERY Guest of Honour
- discussion on topics such as; "Real Mon In SF", Hangover Cures, "Villains In SF", and "Breaking The Drought".
- Masquerade Thome "An Interstellar Circus"
- Auction; of serious and silly items
- Trivia Quiz
- Life Be In It Games
- Films; including "Life Of Brian".
- Audio Visuals
- Videos
- Parties
- Books and Magazines Sold

WHY: EASTER is the traditional time for a science fiction convention in Melbourne.

This year Easter begins on April 1st, April Fools Day.

What better excuse for having a convention that is just plain fun - FUNCON.

WHERE DO I STAY: The Hotel has plenty of rooms. They are all triples and cost \$45 per night. If you want a room please send us a \$20 deposit as soon as possible (ASAP) and certainly by mid March.

WHO: The FUNCON address is PO Box 4, Thornbury, Vic., 3071.
All Cheques should be written to Funcon.

An all purpose membership and room booking form will be found over the page.

SEE YOU AT FUNCON

REMEMBER FUNCON MEMBERSHIP GOES UP TO \$20-00 AFTER 27/2/83

NAME
ADDRESS
THE ALL SEE ING, ALL KNOWING, GENERAL PURPOSE, FUNCON MEMBERSHIP FORM
I'm silly enough to give you five dollars (\$5-00) of my hard earned money, even though I won't be coming to your convention. So please sign me up as a supporting member. (I agree to pay extra if I then decide to come to your crazy convention).
It's before 27/2/83 so take this fifteen dollars (\$15) and give me a full attending membership of your stupid convention. I promise to have a good time, not take things seriously and generally be the lunatic that people say I am.
Now it's after 27/2/33 I guess I'll have to give you this \$20 so I can come to your amazing con. Please take it in the spirit intended (a good nine year old malt whisky will do) and let my people come.
The Queenslodge Motor Inn sounds like a really groovy place to hang out. I'm sending this here \$20-00 to book me a room for the following nights: Thursday/Friday/Saturday/Sunday/Monday
The rooms are so big that I'll be sharing mine with
((There really is too little time for us to organise sharing arrangements. We leave that to those of you who want a room. We may be able to help with accommodation for those who are really strapped at the convention but we make no promises.))
en de la companya de La companya de la co
I really am a masochist and would like to offer my services to help the Committee at FUNCON Just tell me what to do.
ter per a cianggar a constant de la cianggar a constant de la cianggar a constant de la cianggar a constant de
WARNING MEMBERSHIP OF FUNCON GOES UP TO \$20-00 FROM 27/2/83
MELBOURINE
17
85

Ditmar Awards are the Australian equivalent of the Hugo Awards. Anyone who is a member of the National Convention (this year, Syncon) can vote in the awards. However, anyone can nominate stories, artists, what have-you for the awards. The awards are 'run' by each year's NatCon, and presented at that convention. Members of the convention are presented with a final ballot with a preselected list of most-nominated works/people in a number of different categories. The nominations deadline for this year's Ditmar Awards closes on the 25th of March. The categories are as follows: Pest International Science Fiction or Fantasy

Best Australian Science Fiction or Fantasy

Best Australian Fanzine

Best Australian Fan Writer

Best Australian Science Fiction or Fantasy Artist
Best Australian Science Fiction or Fantasy Cartoonist

Best Australian Science Fiction or Fantasy Editor

William Atheling Award for Criticism

Contribution to Australian Fandom

All mail: "Awards", Syncon, 20 Box A491, Sydney South 2000, MSW

COMQUEST '83 - The first Mational Media SF Convention

Dates: 24th/25th September

Venue: Park Royal Hotel, Brisbane, QLD.

Rates: Attending Membership: \$20
ROOM Rates: \$52/night

Both as a follow-up to the eminently successful Conquest '32, and as the first National Media SF Convention, this is bound to generate much interest. Run by essentially the same people as ran C'32, it should be a success.

For the moment, I have only the address of the Victorian agent.

Contact: Cathy Merrigan, 17/140 Riversdale Rd, Hawthorn 3122, VIC. for further information, or attend Funcon in Melbourne over Easter, where Glynnis Chalmers & Katina Barry (2 of the organisers) will be. They'll be happy to answer all enquiries.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

SYDNEY: First of all let's start with a correction: Joy Window & Gordon Lingard have moved to Andrew Tabman's old place, which is in fact 44 O'Connell Street,

Newtown 2042. The address of the DUFF administrator in Australia has changed, and all correspondence, incl. votes should go to Box 272 Mentworth Building, University of Sydney, NSW 2006. Meanwhile, Kim Muett has moved, to 3/28 Gordon St, Pozelle 2039, although his postal address remains as GPO Box 429 Sydney 2001.

MELBOURNE: Tim Dawson can be found lurking around 21 Desmond Street, Ingleburn 2565,

NSW (er, Sudney, in fact... now why did I list that under Melbourne? Humm,
maybe I haven't quite Sully recovered, yet).

REALLY MELBOURNE: Charles Taylor, recently of Zimbabwe (teaching contract), came back a couple of months ago (New Year period) with Mic, who he met over there and who is now his wife, and her two kids. They were staying at Charles' mum's place, which is where they were wed, but now they have moved, to 74 Marianne Way, Mt Waverley 3149. On the subject of marriage and kids, Assas & Karen seem to have reserved a permanent mention for themselves in every issue of Thyme. This time it is to announce the fact that Karen has lost a lot of weight. Yes, baby makes three. Adric Maxwell Desmond Small (ANDS) was born at St. George's Hospital on the 6th of February, and is doing just fine. Shane Pickup is back from overseas, and it looks as though he will be moving into 79 Bell Street Fitzroy 3065 while Alan Samagalski is overseas (China), pretending to be a travel writer, for 4-5 months.

and Chris Atkinson are expecting a child. On a slightly less-eventful note, Roelof Goudriaan has a new postal address: Postbus 1189, 7200 BD, Lelystad, The Netherlands. Poelof is editor of the European newszine Shards of Rabel, more of which later.

ADELAIDE: John Packer is now at 9/3 Eversley Avenue, Enfield 5085, phone (03)269 6664.

PERTH: Don Griffiths is at Flat 1, 97 Ley St, Manning 6152. Colleen Dye & Adam Jenkins have moved to 26 Sydney Street, North Perth 6006. Like them, the place

that Jo Masters and Steve Gunnell were in was sold, and they've had to move to 5/68

Cardner Street, Como 6152. Jules Milson is now of 23 Edmund Terrace, Kelmscott 6111, Caroline Strong & Warrin Hughes have moved to 6a Garby Street, Bentley 6102, and until they move to Canberra (ReallySoonMow), Katrina & Darrell Swansbra will be staying with CS & WH. (More on Katrina & Darrell to follow.)
Let's cut suddenly to the

BID NEWS: MELBOUPNE IN '35

# New Agent Appointed

Tom Cardy, of 783b George Street, Dunedin, is the New Zealand agent for the bid. With Peter Toluzzi having moved to the USA, the NSW agent is still unconfirmed.

## Official Airline Aunounced

Air New Zealand will be the official airline for the 43rd World Science Fiction Convention, if it is held in Melbourne. The airline was involved with Aussiecon in 1975 in a very successful relationship. Our North American visitors were able to take a charter tour package of New Zealand on their return to the US. The tour was apparently a great success. (So be warned, all you Kiwifen, to expect hordes of visiting Americans round the time of the convention - assuming we win.)

Fund raising has been going well. At Swancon 8 over the Australia Day weekend \$239 was raised, and for that special thanks ought to go to Sally Beasley, WA agent. Included in that amount was an amount donated by Swancon 6 to the Australia in '83 bid, but never passed on.

Also, an Auction to be held at Funcon has been organised. We're looking for any sf books in good condition, fannish memorabilia and (other) joke items. Any material you give for the auction will be used to raise money for the bid. Material can be delivered to 4 Harold Street, Middle Park 3206, or you could ring Derrick Ashby on (03) 699 3347 (home), or on 699 4657 (work).

But, just so you don't get the impression that it's a matter of give and no take, note that there was a free bid party held on the 20th of March, at the Ashbys' place. Apart from being a party, it was also a general-information-dispersion/questions-answered-about-the-bid occasion. As the time approaches, more and more activities are planned.... Such as...

# A 'MELBOURNE IN '85' CAR BALLY

Date: Anzac Day (26th of April)

A fannish car rally around the historic (fannish) ((oh yes...)) sites of Melbourne is being organised by Sue & David Grigg. The purpose of such insane behaviour is to encourage an awareness of our past. (The real purpose is of course to have lots of fun, but this is a secret) An additional purpose is to provide money for the coffers of the Pid. Details are not yet finalised, but the likely charge is of the order of \$5 per car. Further money will be charged for access to the goodies that will be provided by the organisers, at the barbecue to be held afterwards. As well as that, an sf trivia quiz will be held in conjunction with the rally. ((I wonder what 'in conjunction' means?)) (('as part of'?)) Anyway, the whole thing sounds like a lot of fun. You don't have to have a car to be in the thing: if you're interested in participating, please contact the Griggs ('Car Rally', GPO Box 2253U, Melbourne 3001, or ring David at work on 6065511) People needed are: drivers (with cars), navigators, quiz champions. If you haven't got a car, they'll put you in one. You could even be an official, if you'd like! It promises to be a great day for anyone not in Adelaide, at Advention 4. Be there!

Meanwhile, in Europe, Roelof Goudriaan is making noises about organising a charter flight over for the con (the WorldCon in '25, that is). Already, we know to expect hundreds of Americans, and now it seems the Europeans will be getting in on the act, hurrah. Now that the Bid has appointed an official airline, anyone thinking of flying about might do well to get in touch with the Bid Committee to check on possible concessions.

# WORLDCON YUGOSLAVIA: YUGOSLAVIA IN '88

- · Obviously the 'Melbourne in '85' bid is a more pressing, immediate concern.
- . That doesn't mean we can't give some support to other concerns.
- · Worldcon Yugoslavia', like any Australian or other non-American bid for to hold a

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World Science Fiction Convention, faces an uphill climb: the majority of fans live in the USA, and it is they who must be convinced to allow the "World"Con to be held away from their country. In 1983, for instance, they decided not to let this happen, and the Australian bid lost out.

· You can help the bid just by becoming a Pre-Supporting Member.

- What this does is to raise a small amount of money, and to generate some amount of publicity.
- The Australian agent for the Yugoslavian bid to hold the 1988 Morld SF Con is...
  Roger Meddall, of 79 Rell Street, Fitzrov 3065, VIC.

Pre-Supporting Memberships cost only \$2. For this, you get ...

a) all the information the committee sends out about what they're doing for the bid, and so on

b) the uncomplicated novelty of being a pre-supporting member of the Mugoslav bid (I mean, a pretty unusual thing in itself, eh?)

c: a pre-supporting membership number! Yes, that's right, you can choose whatever number you want to be! This of course depends on when you become a member... As it stands, there are already almo over a dozen people joined up.

Numbers already taken are 1 - 18. Now, isn't 19 a rather interesting number? Prime, nothing whatsoever to do with 42... or would you in fact like to be number 42? Well, off you go....

Now seems like as good a time as any to put in a long-overdue very strong plug for three (count them!) European zines.

Ansible is put out by Mugo nominated fan Dave Langford, of 94 London Poad, Reading,

Berks., PCl 5AU, U.K. It exists largely on the basis of paid subscriptions
(er, correct me if I'm wrong, Dave), but you might like to write and ask
for a sample issue or, much the same as Thyme, persuade the editor there's
some reason for you to get it for free. Ansible is undoubtedly the UK newszine, it is
Thyme and ASTN combined, and better than both of them. As an introduction to the names
and faces and ways of Britfandom, you couldn't go far wrong with this in your hands.
Generally newsy articles, with editorial comments, addresses. If you're interested in
what's going on over there, this is probably the best place to start, short of standing for GUFF. Appears monthly, last issue #31.

Shards of Babel (aka SOB) is produced by Boelof Goudriaan, of Postbus 1199, 9200 BD,
Lelystad, The Netherlands. Get it the same way as for Ansible: write.

SOB a truly European newszine, in that Roelof does not spend most of the time talking about Netherlands fandom; the accent is more continental, secular, than Ansible. European fandom is quite a different thing from British fandom, and SOB conveys much of the feel of Eurofandom while remaining extraordinarily full of information of all sorts. The last, large issue saw a report on East German fandom, and there were items/articles of different sorts on what was going on (or not) pretty much all over Europe, both East and West. Shards of Babel is written entirely in English. Again, a valuable introduction to the fandoms and personalities of Europe.
Reccomended reading. Appears bi-monthly, last issue #6.

Pernier Salon Avant L'Autoroute (aka DEMA) est produit by Pascal Thomas. 11bis rue

Vasco de Gama, 75015 Paris, France. Available for all sorts of reasons,
including the more usual ones, the obvious major drawback of DEMA, from a
non-French point of view, is that it is entirely in French. Generally
shorter than Ansible or 50B, the profusion of unknown names and events may at first
confuse but surely this is the case with any zine put out by someone you don't
personally know. After a short while, the whole of it begins to make sense. It is a
window on French fandom, and that in itself is enough to make it recommended reading.
Fascal has a pleasant style (I'm told by a translator), and the articles are good reading. The recent piece on the film E.T. was particularly amusing. If you yourself know
no French, then find a friend who does. P.S. Pascal himself reads and writes English
very well, so you'll have no worries communicating with him. Appears regularly, last
issue #9.

# SWANCON 8 - AT LAST THE TRUTE CAN BE TOLD

It wasn't hard to tell just who had been over to Perth for Swancon 3. They were the ones who were permanently stuck in a grin from ear to ear. But why? Nup, all they did was grin. One of them said: "It was great," but that was all.

Well, at last (some of) the truth can be told. I have in my possession smuggled copies of two con reports, and although I have a feeling' that those fixed, ecstatic grins have yet to be explained, these two reports go some of the way to explaining why they hold these Swancons.

Sally Reasley gets first chop:

'Swancon 8 was held at the Westos Motor Inn on the Australia
Day long weekend. GoHs were Damien Broderick, author, and Bob Ogden,
fan. This is the second year we've been at the Westos, and they're
really a good hotel - friendly, they block-booked us on one floor,
and they are able to cope with noisy parties. Perhaps because they
had a couple of basketball teams there on the same weekend! The manager was very friendly and asked us if we'd had a good time when we
checked out, as well as wanting to stay at the filksinging party to
learnthe words (he couldn't, since he had the rest of the hotel to check.)

'I'm not the best person to write a report, since I usually don't go to many programme items (this year was no exception) and I didn't go to many parties this year. Still: the highlights for me, were Peter's audiovisual trip report on the first night, following Bob Ogden's slide introduction to WA fans and fandom. The debate, also on Friday, was a disaster — supposedly a serious debate, which only one person on it had had a chance to prepare for. Next year it will be organised better — overall, programming was the weak point this year. The organiser needs to be someone of considerable force of personality, and that wasn't the case this year but hopefully should be the next.

'Saturday featured a very bad play . The Last Voyage of the Starship Enterprise - whose title gives away the plot rather. Also a couple of panels, which I didn't attend, and a play entitled Epilogue, written by Dave Luckett and featuring Dave, Ian Nicholls and myself. People were very complimentary, & I think it went well, but I can 9 hardly give a dispassionate account. Dinner was with lots of fans at a Mongolian Ba-becue restaurant ((More barbecue notices, whoops)), and there was a Masquerade and the 'Goon Show'. Some excellent costumes -. most remarkable were Carey Mandfield & Barbara & Geoff de la Hunty/Jagoe as an alien ambassador & entourage; Gina Goddard as the Micked Witch of the West: Stephen Dedman as Frankenfurter (really!); and Mark Hennessy who had shaved his head hald and painted himself gold for the occasion (he looked very odd without eyebrows for the rest of the con...). I had not expected much of the 'Time and a Half' Goon Show, by Craig Milton, because the script waspoor and there were casting problems, but it was surprisingly good on the night. Unfortunately I fell asleep after that & so missed the massage party, the sleaze party, & the travelling Cackleberry Hall party.

'Sunday was distinguished by most people (except me) being hung over. There were a GoH speech and interview by Damien, (he talked abstruse population statistics & parapsychology at the first).

'At the auction I successfully outbid Kim Huett for 'The Compleat Merewolf', and a Craig Milto painting, and outbid Marwick
Thomas for a signed first edition of a Bloch novel. Peter Toluzzi's
jellybeans were fetching extravagant prices, & DUFF was doing well.
So was A in '35: it almost got to the point wherethe Well-Dressed
Fan was wearing a Melbourne tram badge. Sunday was also the final of
the Rail Baron tournament, with tempers getting edgy.

'The filksinging workshop generated 3 Swancon filks - one each from Dave, Ian and Craig Hilton. There was a filksinging and pina colada party that night, featuring overproof rum and coconut milk

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made by soaking dessicated coconut in hot water and straining it through Ian Nicholls' jocks. There was also a party attempting to set a world record for the number of women massaging one man - I think we reached 9, and Damien and Mike Schaper seemed to enjoy it...

'Monday was even more hungover for most, and I'm sure had some programming... yes, there was the 'My Word' panel, ripped off from Tschaicon & suffering from inadequate preparation; and there was the Melbourne in '85 pitch, and the con filksongs to finish it off. Then a dead dog party at Roy & Julia's, with more filksinging & games of "Dirty Words" & "Pin the Baby Oil on the Dead Dog" and a farewell to Peter. Swancon 9 should be fun.'

Mext, an all-leather Goon Show rendition of "The Swancon 8 Report"; Julia Ferguson do your worst! ((Aaagh...))

'With the early arrival of Damien Broderick and Kim Huett from the East, Roy and I were ready by Day I for chaos & confusion and the clutter of well-known fannish bodies that were decorating the bar. Blood racing at the thought of the festivities to come ((aha...?)), I was brought suddenly down to earth by the demand of a Polish man wanting to know when the serious business of talking about sf was to begin (I wondered how to let him down gently)((aha...?))) and by being introduced to numerous starry-eyed neofen, suffering from ((censored))((aha!...))

'The opening ceremony was only 2 minutes late - a good sign - and the mysterious mystery GoM revealed (we all knew it was Bob Ogden!) with a bag over his head. D.B. gave us an impression of the 'Joe Haldeman Grunt of Monour' (first seen at Unicon 6).

'The evening's entertainment started with an announcement. "All those with the vague suspicion that they are in the Creat Debate see me." (Steven Dedman) Many fen ran and hid, others pointed fingers at one another and from that chaos a pair of teams were formed - this set a precedent for panellists for the rest of the con.

'Peter Toluzzi produced a beautiful if occasionally ((censored)) AudioVisual of his American trip as DUFF rep: for most of us who knew Peter it the first taste of the goodbyes later in the week.

'The Great Debate was a disaster saved only by the aplomb of Chair Dave Luckett and a crazy speech about the preferential properties of yoghurt above cheese by D.E. (the actual subject was whether the popularity of films such as Star Wars and E.T. were contributing to a lessening of literary standards in sf). ((Didn't Sally say this was meant to be a serious topic?))

'Highlights of the second day included Damien Broderick's pyrotechnical obfuscations that were fascinating if sometimes difficult to follow if you weren't a maths student. Later in the day Dave Luckett, Sally Beasley and Ian Nicholls stunned the assemblage with their one act play, Epilogue. I've seen and been in many amateur plays and this one was superb. I don't know if this performance will make it to the eastern state cons this year; if it does, don't miss it.

'((censored)) sex, leather and whips and rats, not necessarily in that order. The masquerade was followed by the Tin Duck Awards:

Best Fanwriter. . . . Seth Lockwood

Best Fanzine. . . . . The WASFAM editor, Seth Lockwood

Best Fan Artist . . . Peter Saxon Best Fan Cartoonist . . Craig Hilton

A Chairman's special award was also given, to Warren Hughes (Programming) for all the help Warren has given in the past to many conventions.

'The ((censored)) started ((censored)) with slow, ((censored)) funny, if not terribly ((censored)).

'After the close the usual Dead Dog party at ur home, where we had a chance to say goodbye to Peter Toluzzi. Whatever the state of the people by the end of the party, there was general agreement that a good time had been had by all, and roll on Swancon 9.

Mere is clearly the place (thanks, Julia and Sally) to announce that Harry Marrison is to be the next Guest of Honoux at a Swancon. Apparently a group of Adelaide fand were planning to ask Harry over for a Ratcon - complete with John Packer (who keeps pet rats, which are the reason he had to move house). Harry Harrison is, of course, author of that infamous romp, The Stainless Steel Rat, with its many sequels. The decision to ask Harry to be Swancon 9 GoH was made in good faith, in ignorance of the Adelaide group's plans.

So that one is definite, folks: Harry Harrison GoH for Swancon 9. Cheer, Scream, Yea. For further information, either watch this space, or contact perhaps Sally Beasley, 21 Gold Street, South Fremantle 6162, or maybe Melvyn Binns at Space Age Books, Melbourne.

# GENERAL GOINGS ON including "Once upon a time in the West"

Perth: Sally Beasley: 'Katrina Hennessy and Darrell Swansbra became Mr & Mrs Darrell Swansbra (not so much a marriage, more a loss of identity) on January the 23rd. The wedding & reception were held at a reception centre, the wedding outside by a charminge olde worlde rustice welle, and the reception inside. It does annoy me that celebrants seem to feel it necessary to welcome the bride and groom's families and friends to the wedding — it isn't an occasion for the celebrant, but for the couple. The reception suffered from a band which played poorly and made conversation difficult, and poor mass produced food and wine. Still, my reaction may have been jaundiced by the fact that I had a bad cold. Next wedding is Colleen & Adam, on the 4th of June. ATTAT HE MEMALY HE STANT HE ATTAT HE ATTAT. Sally also mentions that Ian Nicholls has moved...'to "points west" and that Stephen Dedman has moved, but that mail to his postal box should still reach him.

"Songs & Ballads", by Dave Luckett, with illustrations by Peter Saxon, all of it produced offset, is now available, from either Sally or Dave, for the bargain steal price of \$4 - good value for money.

Meanwhile, perhaps it's just Sally's cynicism rubbing off on me, but it does seem that we also are having a rash of weddings over here. Charles & Nic (although that was settled on a while ago), and now Torbjörn von Strokirch and friend Robyn, from Sydney, whom he first met overseas. The loving couple are engaged ( ) and will be married some time pretty soon. Mandy Herriot came up with the sensible idea: "Torbjörn, why don't you and Robyn get married during Syncon? All or many of your friends would be up there then; why put them to the extra expense of another trip to Sydney just for the wedding?" or words to that effect. Torbjörn (and Pobyn?) are considering... will this turn out to be a marriage of convenience?

Of course, Asms and Karen are to wed sometime later this year, Octoberish. Next?

Still in Melbourne, the infamous NOVA MOB are of course back to meeting on the first Mednesday of every month. They've sortel out a programme for the year - here it is.

April 6th Conflicts between print and non-print sf - Bruce Barnes

drawings will be provided ((make mine van Gogh))
May 4th Wynne Whiteford, on HOW OTHER PROPIE GET THOSE CRAZY IDEAS, I SUPPOSE,

BUT MAYBE THEY'RE NOT ALL THAT CRAZY((MAYBE IT'S JUST ME))

June 1st THE LAW & SCIENCE FICTION, by Mark Linneman

July 6th Damien Broderick suggests that SCIENCE FICTION SHOULD GET BACK IN THE CUTTER WHERE IT BELONGS

August 3rd 'Yesterday's Men' - a quiet discussion of a recent novel

September 7th Lucy Sussex and Russell Blackford talk to each other discuss Vladimir Nabokov's new computer language. ADA

October 5th ARTHURIAN FANTASY is revelled in by Kathy Kerrigan

Movember 2nd Who plans this far ahead, except for the Supreme Soviet? Everyone's just waiting for...

December 7th ...the CHRISTMAS PARTY!

What usually happens is that people gather at the Foyster/Bryce residence, 21 Shake—speare Grove, St Kilda 3132 (easy to get to from the city, by #15 tram) of an evening, around 7 o'clock, often after having eaten at The Danube restaurant in Ackland St, just around the corner. These discussions usually start out with someone talking about the topic, but the conversation then spreads to include... well, anything. Everything. Yes. Everything is discussed at each and every Nova Mob meeting. Same old horing everything. Well, what else is there to do? Come along and find out. Newcomers definitely welcomed, maybe even encouraged.

The 'Yesterday's Men' mentioned above as a potential topic for discussion is, of course, the new novel by George Turner, the one that completes the rough trilogy began by Deloved Son, continued by Vaneglory. What I'm trying to say is, go out and buy the bloody things, if you haven't already. Support Australian sf. Buy a good book, even. Or, if your brain hurts, why not join the Ratconteurs (Melbourne SF Social Discussion

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and DRINGING Group) at the Manor Mouse Hotel, cnr Swanston & Lonsdale Srts, at 9:15 of an evening on Fridays. Aims of the Ratconteurs are: drinking, and Dancing with Girls ("thanks, Ford Prefect!"). All welcome. Now, could it be simple coincidence that the Melbourne SF Club, which meets upstairs atS-ace Age Books, also meets on Fridays, but from 7:00 till 9:15? Meanwhile, ever since Museo Bistro, just up from Space Age, closed, the Friday night dinners have been thrown partially into disarray. People now meet from six on at the Canadian Steak House, just down (and across) the road a little bit, but the CSH is, to be kind, not particularly suited to any sort of conviviality. Ideas are in the works for an alternative arrangement, Thyme will keep you informed!

In Sydney, Nick Stathopoulos is... well, let Nick tell it in his own words...
'...I've been totally absorbed in a series of pre-production paintings for a major
Australian sf film, ALIEN HUNTER... I'm not supposed to be giving too much away about
the film. What I can say is that it looks like being the first major, big-budget sf
film made in this country (if you don't include MAD MAX II). The producer is Richard
Bradley, the director is Michael Robertson ( BEST OF FRIENDS) and at this stage the
project is still quite embryonic.

'For the past three wonths I've been playing Ralph Macquarrie, completeing eleven major paintings, and hundreds of sketches which served as the basis for the final paintings.'

Chay, everybody, that's all there is to know. More film projects have folded halfway through than you have brain cells to think with, so just sit tight, and wait to hear the good news that the film is showing at your local cinema, and Nick's name is in the credits. Talking of film and so on, notice that the ABC (Victoria, at least) is already showing Mitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy on the tv again. And speaking of Douglas Adams, the transcript of the Douglas Adams talk he gave, plus interview he gave to me, is now available from MUSFA, the Melbourne University Scince Fiction Association, in Yggdrasil, the club magazine. Er, now that I check I see it's only the first half of the talk, with the other half next issue. Write to MUSFA, Box 106, Melbourne University. Membership of MUSFA is \$3; for that you get all the Yggdrasils (4) for the year. Mon-Australasians wanting transcript, can also write Thyme, if wished.

Still on the subject of film, Locus notes that Brian Aldiss has sold the rights to a story, Supertoys Last All Summer Long (1969) to Stanley Kubrick. He's working on it with Kubrick, writing an extended version. "No film contract has been signed. We're working on it."

In an unconnected incident, author Bob (Wilson) Tucker, possibly practising for Melbourne in '85, slipped while getting out of a jacuzzi at Chattacon in America and chipped a bone in his foot. Unfortunately, someone had stolen his clothes plus those of the four nude ladies with him, who had to carry Tucker through the hotel to the convention suite. Photographers were not to hand. Some people have all the luck.

THYME POLL RESULTS Just over thirty replies were received, not a bad response. However - and I perhaps should have foreseen this - the range of response to some questions was so broad as to make a morkety of the inea of any rophilat analy make the results not very meaningful. But since these awards are so unimportant, that could hardly matter much. Anyway, here we go.

- 1) BEST FILM SEEM IN 1982.
- Lots of people saw lots of different films, but a clear winner was Bladerunner, with 16 points. Second was <u>Tron</u>, with llpoints, and equal third with 10 points were <u>The Wall</u> and <u>Paiders of the Lost Ark</u>. The only other films to receive more than 3 points (a first-place vote) were <u>Deerhunter</u> with 5pts and <u>Gregory's Girl</u> With 4. E.T. received one second place and one third place.
- 2) BEST NOVEL READ IN 1982.

Was a tie for first, on 8 points, Roderick by John Sladek, and Sword of the Lictor, by Gene Wolfe. Third came Riddley Walker, on 7 points, with Life, the Universe & Everything by Adams, The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula Le Guin, and If On A Winter's Night A Traveller, by Italo Calvino. The field in this category was so spread out, as with the previous one, that the winners were almost irrelevant. In both categories, neither sf nor fantasy nor the two combined formed a majority of the con-enders

3) BEST SF OR FANTASY FILM EVER.

No real surprise here: 2001: A Space Odyssey, with 41 points, received almost three times the vote of any other entry. Distant second and third were Star Wars and The Man Who Fell To Earth, with 16 and 15 points respectively.

Raiders of the Lost Ark 12 points Clockwork Orange Fantasia 7 points Silent Running 9 points 6 points Tron Flash Gordon 3 points 5 points Bladerunner 8 points Allegro Non Troppo 5 points Dr Strangelove 8 points Forbidden Planet 4 points

4) BEST SF OR FANTASY NOVEL EVER. The Empire Strikes Back 4 points

The result in this category was completely meaningless. Lord of The Rings received 16 points, from many votes, and only two stories received more than two votes from anyone else, Pothouse and Childhood's End.

- 5) BEST FAMMRITER was easily won by Marc Ortlieb, 14 points, from Seth Lockwood, 9 points, then 3 people on 8 points, all of them British: Chris Atkinson, Malcolm Edwards, Joseph Nicholas. Leigh Edmonds next on 7 points, then Judith Hanna on 5.
- 6) BEST FAN APTIST was even more easily won, by John Packer on 13 points, from Marilun Pride and Pete Luon, both on 6 points 17 people were nominated for this category.
- 7) PERSON FURTHERING the '85 CAUSE

Marc Ortlieb, John Packer and John Foyster will at some stage (it's called hand-delivery) receive their Silver Pine Cones, as Winners. Leanne Frahm, of Queensland, was the lucky voter to receive the three-issue free bonus of Thume. To close, I would like to thank all those people who voted for me anyway - especially those who put my name down in the BEST SF OF FANTASY FILM EVER category - even though the votes were of course unable to be counted.

Typed 145°E, 38°S. Thanks to Sally, Derrick, Julia, Frank, John, Justin and, without a doubt, Fejesúr. Seeyus

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