

ZYME #72

THE AUSTRALASIAN SF NEWS MAGAZINE
NOVEMBER 1988



"Rats of the Underworld" ©
Craig Hilton 1988

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If you have a big hand-drawn X (XX for non Australians) on your mailing label, this means that this is your LAST issue unless you DO SOMETHING.

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FAN FUNDS

Since all Australian related fan funds are endeavouring to bring the winning fanout to Swancon, early next year, all fan funds have been very active lately. GUFF voting closes at midnight on the 26th of November 1988 (local time of each administrator). A Voting form is enclosed. Irwin will, no doubt, appreciate your vote, as will the winner.

GUFF closes on December the 31st, and again a voting form is enclosed. Is a six week candidacy some sort of record? Does anyone know? Irwin Hirsh raises the query in GUFFAWE, about the next Australian to go. Normally Australians are sent to the Worldcon, but in 1990 the Worldcon is in Holland, not America. Which American con will therefore be chosen? With any luck a similar problem will occur in 1994. If everything is on schedule, an Australian will be due to go to America, BUT we may be holding the Worldcon that year. Will the administrators just decide to miss 1990? It would solve both scheduling problems.

The other Australian fan fund is FFANZ. Nominations have closed and there will be three candidates standing; Brian Howell, B. J. Parkinson, and Pauline Meinung/Rex Thompson. At the time of typing Voting forms were not yet available. Lyn McConchie, the New Zealand administrator continues to be incredibly active, and if I've done my arithmetic correctly, the funds in the New Zealand coffers should be around NZ\$450. No word has been received yet about the state of the Australian coffers, either from the outgoing or incoming Administrators. (Cry Havoc!)

TAFF, the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund, which takes fans between Europe and America, after a little controversy has managed to produce a voting form also. (If you are interested, I have also enclosed that.) It appears that two of the original candidates, one of whom would have been a popular vote, were unable or unwilling to go to the British Natcon, and requested that the more popular and Finnish MEXICON be nominated instead. The administrators in their wisdom did not do so. The unwilling one is still standing, but the unable one has had to drop out. Could not an exception have been made in cases like that? Closing date isn't till January, and Australians and New Zealanders ARE eligible to vote also. (Critical Wave)

Those of you who read the colophon (presumably a subset of those who actually read this magazine at all), will have noticed some changes this time around. Peter Burns is no longer an editor. This is Peter's idea, and partially results from the distrust the Danse Macabre committee have of Thyme editors (having been Thyme editors themselves).

The other change is that Mike Geyer is no longer Thyme's North American agent. This is not due to any great dissatisfaction with Mike on my part, but mainly an almost total lack of subscribers from that part of the world. I will now send issues direct.

Awards

THE ROBBIES: The 1988 Media Awards, given at the 1988 National Media Convention, Zencor II, October 1988.

Best Fanzine: Spock
Best Fanwriter: Edwina Harvey
Best Media Artist: Gail Adams

Every one of these awards was popularly decided on first preferences only.

At the same convention Conspire '89, won the right to hold the 1989 National Media Convention, with over 50% of the vote. (Lawrie Brown & Cath Kerrigan)

And in other awards given out some time ago, but which Thyme only heard about in Mid-September - THE CASPERS: The Canadian Achievement awards, given at Keycon 5 / Convention 8 (May, 1988).

Best Work in English: Jack the Giant Killer Charles de Lint
Best Work in French: Les Crabes de Venus Alain Bergeron
Fan Achievement: Maple Leaf Rag, edited by Michael Skeet.

Next year these awards will be considerably expanded to include in each of the Works categories, both long and short fiction, and 'other'. The Fan Category will differentiate between fanzines, conventions/clubs, and again 'other'. (Maple Leaf Rag, June 1988)

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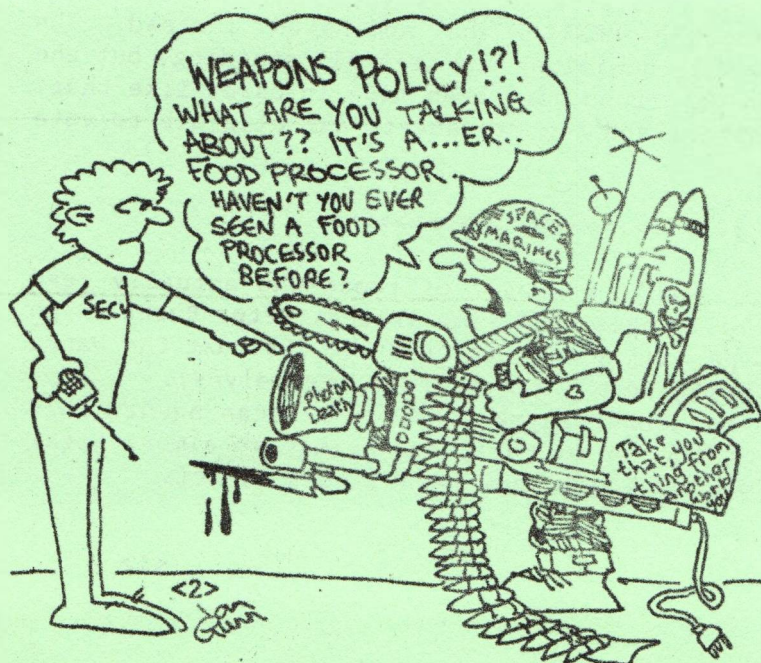
Speaking of Zencon II (which we were, sort of)...

ZENCON II - a report

Well, OK, where do I start? This is, of course, going to be a completely biased, personal and opinionated report (ain't they all?) so let me say right from the outset:

- 1) I had a thoroughly enjoyable time at Zencon, and
- 2) Zencon was one of the worst cons I've ever been to.

Let me qualify that; I haven't been to THAT many cons, really, and there has been at least ONE I've attended that was much, much nastier. Zencon was unfortunate enough to suffer from a series of minor hiccups that, individually, weren't worth worrying about, but taken together became most annoying. Example: the con had three venues, the Royal Parade Motor Inn, the Carlton Football Ground and Clunies Ross House, thankfully not all simultaneously. Clunies Ross was a fair hike from anywhere else and getting to the footy ground involved crossing an extremely busy major road. The footy ground itself was the major day-time venue, and it had its own



And now, the second thrilling installment of

DARTH: The Good Guy Who Lost

As was explained in the previous article of this series ([Thyme #71](#)), the three film 'Star Wars' saga follows a long history of distorting historical fact to suit the box office, and sometimes, political realities. Just as the final chapter of the Wars of the Roses is rewritten in Richard III, because Will Shakespeare was either relying on biased Tudor historians, knew better than to offend the ruling family, or thought it made a much better story; so the Star Wars Trilogy has been twisted out of all resemblance to the historical facts.

One interesting historical analogy, where the legend has long over shadowed the reality, is that of Dracula, a 15th Century Prince of Wallachia sometimes known as Vlad III, or the Impaler. Dracula's dad was called Vlad Dracul, meaning Devil or Dragon, because he was a member of the Order of the Dragon, a semi-monastic semi-military organisation devoted to fighting the Turks, who were making a pest of themselves in Eastern Europe at that time.

Wallachia was a buffer state between Hungary and the Turks, the next state going North being Transylvania, then part of Hungary (both provinces are now in Romania). For one reason or another in what were very turbulent times, Dracula did a lot of raiding in Transylvania, especially against the Saxon-controlled trading towns there. His nickname of Impaler was not undeserved, but he also gained some passing kudos in European courts as a fighter against the Turks.

However, the Saxons were understandably not pleased with this Devil's Son (that's what the name means) and the resulting bad press not only gave Dracula an unsavoury reputation at the time, some of the Saxon material also found its way into the British Museum, where it was seen by the Victorian novelist Bram Stoker. Stoker had also just been talking to an authority about superstitions in Eastern Europe and he mixed the whole lot into the novel Dracula. The novel is quite a good horror yarn which created much of the present Vampire lore. Transylvanians did sometimes stake bodies in the graveyard and smear garlic on doors but as protection against ghosts (who cause disease and such), not Vampires.

Where was I? Ah yes, as one can see, if it's a choice between royalties and realities the money wins every time. It would be silly to suggest that Darth Vader was a good Joe trying his best. He certainly had his faults, including cruelty, but then some of the best administrators have also been cruel people. Harsh measures were required to counteract the bands of rather lawless rebels in existence in Vader's time.

Vader seems to have been a member of an order known as the Jedi Knights. Very little is known about the order, but there are many historical examples of orders of knights which are usually formed to fight some specific enemy. Sometimes the orders continue to exist long after the original reason for their formation has vanished. One particularly famous example is that of the Knights Hospitalers. Another, more interesting example, especially in light of the references to the Jedis, is that of the Janissaries.

Formed by the Turkish sultans (Dracula's armies fought Janissary regiments), and more of a fighting elite than a knighthood, in the elite's prime Janissaries were recruited by a human levy against Christian provinces. Conscripted as boys and converted to Islam. Janissaries spent their whole lives as soldiers and did not marry. However, by the 17th Century the elite had turned from an effective fighting force into a militarily ineffectual but politically powerful power-block intent on preserving its own privileges. They had to be got rid of, and one Sultan did so violently.

The Yarn Basket

CofA's:

It's that shifty season again.

M.S.F.C. (The Melbourne Science Fiction Club) have moved back to St Davids Church, West Brunswick for their regular weekly meetings. (Take the #55 Tram up Melville Rd).

Mark (Rocky) Lawson alias Clark Kent, and probably sundry other names has changed flats, and gone to 2/153 Blues Pt Rd., McMahons Point, Sydney, 2060. New Phone number is (02) 929 9996. This just after having both his TV and his video recorder stolen, AND his car backed into while it was legally parked! We wish you better times, Rocky.

Andrew Brown has moved again, this time back to StKilda; in fact, to 316 Inkerman St, East St Kilda, 3182. Phone number appears non existent, and the house-warming is going on even as I type this.

Also moving into East St Kilda, are Judith and Julian Freidin, to 8 Tantram Ave. Phone number (03) 523 8078.

Marty Cantor (editor of Holier Than Thou, in hibernation as of #27) & Robbie (both ex-DUFFers) have moved to 11825 Gilmore #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606, U.S.A. Their phone number remains unchanged.

And in case you've tried to contact them, Leigh Edmonds, editor of The Notional, and Valma Brown have changed their phone number to (09) 339 4328. (We told you about their change of address last issue - to 6 Elvira St, Palmyra, 6157)

Cary and Marjorie Lenehan have decided to bury themselves in the wilds of Tasmania at 16 Mawenna Pl, Kingston, 7050.

Stephen Boucher has moved further down Williams Rd, Prahran, but retains both his phone number (03) 51 4901, and his city P.O. box: G.P.O. Box 580D, Melbourne, 3001.

Alan Stewart has bought a house in Richmond, but again, the postal address - P.O. Box 222, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, 3005 - remains unchanged.

Ken Moylan is sick of getting lost and decided to become stationary in P.O. Box 799, Dickson, Canberra, 2602. Admittedly a little cramped, but a lot stabler.

Dick & Nicki Lynch, editors of MIMOSA, have also moved to a post office box; P.O. Box 1270, Germantown, MD 20874, U.S.A. Thyme believes MIMOSA is up to at least issue #4, and is very good, but as Thyme has yet to receive a single one of the promised copies it is hard to say for sure. As they sent their CofA to the wrong address this lack may be explained somewhat.

On the subject of addresses, people are still, after almost two years, confusing Roger Weddall with Thyme, and consequently our addresses. Roger's postal address is P.O. Box 273, Fitzroy, 3065. Peter Burns' (also no longer connected with Thyme) address is 206 Haughton Rd, Sth Oakleigh, 3167. Thyme's address is P.O. Box 4024, University of Melbourne, Vic, Australia, 3052.

Fanzines:

There is a new fanzine on the scene, SUDS, an irreverent humorous look at the SCA and other genres. Amongst other delights there's a quiz: "How to Classify your Wargaming Friends". Try it. You'll be surprised and amused at the results. This 'zine is brought to you by CAP Productions, P.O. Box 213, Prospect, SA, 5082. The editors are Caz (Carol Woolmer) and ACB (otherwise unidentified, but to be profiled in issue #2). (Just as an aside, Carol Woolmer and John Packer are engaged to be married. All the best to both.)

Critical Wave, the British SF Newszine, edited by Steve Green and Martin Tudor now has an Australian Agent: Perry Middlemiss, G.P.O. Box 2708X, Melbourne, Vic, Australia, 3001. Subscriptions are \$10 per year.



Mail Order Book Sellers:

Graham Stone - Pre-read Book Relocation Consultant, publishes a monthly list of his stock of second hand books. Anyone who is interested should contact him at G.P.O. Box 4440, Sydney, 2001. Ph: (02) 300 9879.

Graham would also like to know how Thyme got its name. That was the brain child of one of the original editors', Irwin Hirsh, back when it first started in 1981. I believe it is a pun on TIME, but probably only Irwin can remember for sure. He also objected to Clive's "obscure" references to a "LynC". Well..., who else out there doesn't read colophons?

Mervyn Binns (P.O. Box 491, Elsternwick, 3185) also used to publish a regular catalogue, but there doesn't seem to have been one recently.

Justin Ackroyd - Slow Glass Books, continues his service from G.P.O. Box 2708X, Melbourne, Vic, 3001. Recommended for a speedy and cheap supply of new books.

'And now **Carey Handfield** of **Norstrilia Press** is in the act, see his ad on the back of the mailing wrapper. There are some absolute bargains here.

Christmas Parties:

So far only Melbourne appear to have announced any.

Nova Mob's will be held on Saturday the 10th of December, at 35 Foam St, Elwood. From around 8:00 pm onwards. B.Y.O Everything. Ph: 531 4052. (This is Sean McMullen's home, by the way.)

M.S.F.C. will be holding both a lunch and a breakfast on the Banks of the Yarra on Sunday the 4th of December. To get there find the Tennis Centre and walk across the bridge. You should be able to see them. The Chicken and Champagne breakfast starts at 8:00 am, and from about 11:00 am it will turn into a BBQ Lunch. BYO everything.

Help Wanted:

In a letter dated 14-September-1986, **Harry Andruschak** wrote:

"I need help. My next column for **NIEKAS** fanzine is supposed to be a review of the pro-space groups and organisations. I know all about the NSS and other groups in the United States. Does Australia and/or New Zealand have anything like these groups? Or maybe something along the lines of the British Interplanetary Society? If so, could you please send me information about them? Thank You."

NIEKAS is a quarterly 'zine, so it may not be too late to contact him at P.O. Box 5309, Torrance, CA 90510-5309, U.S.A. (That's the problem with bi-monthly scheduling, everything arrives the day AFTER you mailed the last issue!)

Fan Directories:

Every year at least two groups, one in Australia and one in America, publish what they hope will be the definitive guide for all fans to all things fannish. Both are currently requesting entries. Normal entries are free of charge.

A.S.F.A.S. (The Australian Science Fiction Appreciation Society) also offers advertising at \$10 a full page, and \$5 a half page. Their listings are Australian or New Zealand related only. The closing date is 15-Dec-88 for the 1989 directory. Send your entry to The Australian and New Zealand SF Fandom Guide, ASPAS Inc, P.O. Box 879, Penrith, NSW, 2750.

FANDATA Computer Services, 7761 Asterella Court, Springfield, VA 22152-3133, U.S.A. try to cover the whole world. Normal entries close 6-Jan-89 for the 1989 Directory. Publishing date is March. Expanded entries are sold in US\$10 units ("business card size"). The closing date for these is a week later. Display Ads are also available at US\$125 a whole page, reducing to US\$35 for a quarter page. Send your entry to Fandom Directory Registration, 7761 Asterella Court, Springfield, VA22152-3133, U.S.A.

Fandata are also seeking artists, with prizes from \$100 and a free page, down to complimentary copies. If interested, RUSH your queries, as the closing date is December 30, 1988. Write to: **Marianne S. Hopkins**, FD Artwork Contest, at the same address.

NEW SF MAGAZINE 7:

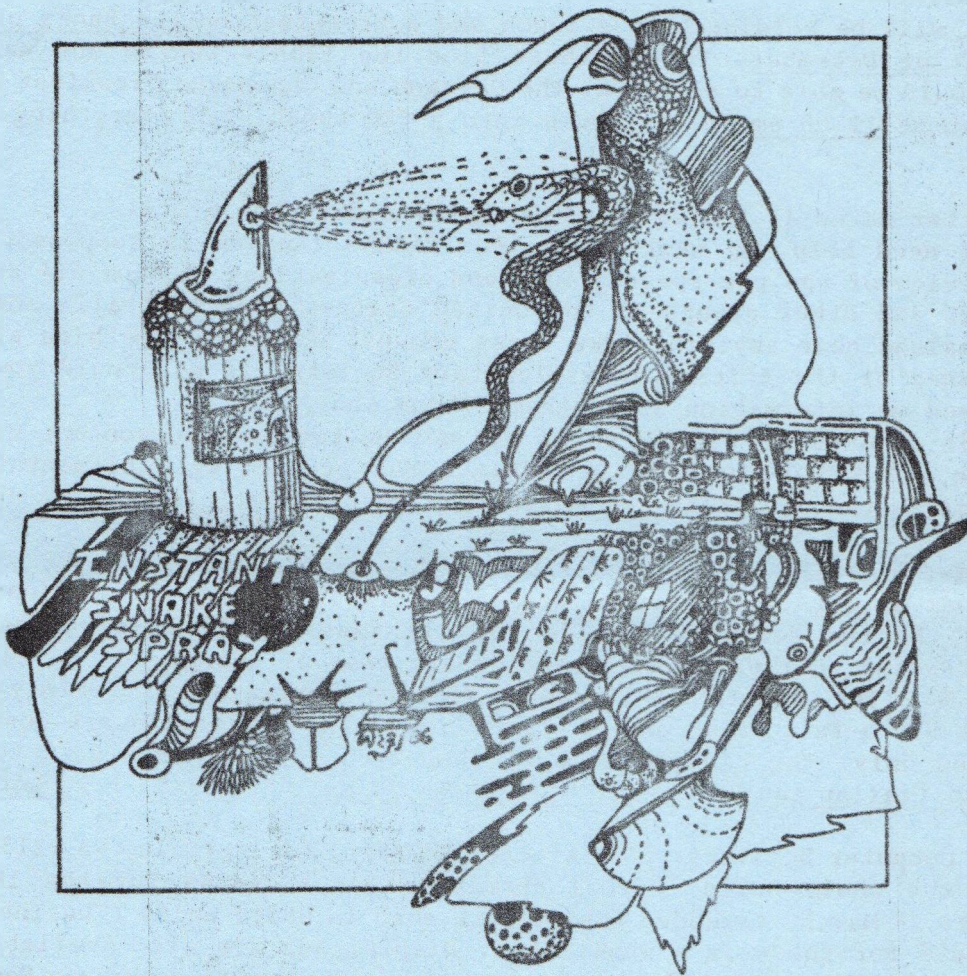
The publishing company of Cunningham, Canterford, & Czausov are conducting a feasibility study into the production of a national SF/F magazine. If you wish to contribute either to the study or the magazine, write to: Conrad R Canterford, P.O.Box 636, Geelong, Vic, 3220. Or phone (052) 52 2776. They are willing to pay for contributions to the 'zine, but the exact price may depend on the result of the feasibility study (Aust Society of Authors Newsletter, October, 1988). Maybe the ASFR collective could forward the couple of pieces that have appeared therein.

OLAF STAPLEDON:

Does anyone know of an Olaf Stapledon Society here in Australia? (Apparently such societies exist in the UK and USA). If you can answer this question, please write to Garnet Brose, P.O. Box 351, Annerley, QLD, 4103. Phone (07) 892 5064.

Garnet also extends an invitation to anyone going in his direction to drop in for "agreeable literary and philosophical disputation". Fanzine Editors: Garnet would dearly love to hear from you also, as he seems to be feeling a little isolated up there in Brisbane.

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The 'THYME' Convention Update

SWANCON 14: the 28th Aust. National SF convention.
Dates: 23-27th March, 1989 (Easter)
Venue: Kings Ambassador, Hay St, Perth.
GOH: John Varley, Bob Shaw, Paul J. (Antifan) Stevens.
Theme: Urban spaceman.
Rates: \$60 Attending, \$20 supporting
Room Rates: \$79 a night for a single, twin, or double. (\$89 triple) One night's deposit in advance ONLY, please. Separate cheques for rooms/ membership, room deposits addressed to 'The King's Ambassador Hotel', not to the con.

Mail: Swancon 14, PO Box 318, Nedlands WA 6009

CONSPIRE: The 1989 Media NatCon
Dates: 17-19th March, 1989
Venue: The Rex Hotel, Northbourne Ave, Canberra, ACT
GOH: John De Lancie ("Q", in Startrek TNG)
Fan GOH: Robert Jan
Rates: \$50 until 1/1/89, \$60 till 16/3/89, \$70 at door. \$10 Supporting
Mail: Conspire '89, G.P.O. Box 2080, Canberra, ACT, AUST, 2601

CONTRIVANCE: British SF NatCon, 1989
Dates: 24-27th March, 1989
Venue: Hotel de France, St Helier, Jersey Island.
GOH: Anne McCaffrey, M. John Harrison.
Rates: £8 supporting, £15 attending, £6 associate
Mail: Contrivance, 63 Drake Rd, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 1LQ, UK
U.S. Agent: Bill & Mary Burns, 23 Kensington Crt, Hempstead, NY 11550, USA

MEXICON III:
Dates: 26-29 May 1989
Venue: Albany Hotel, Nottingham, UK.
Rates: £15
Room Rates: £20, including breakfast & VAT.
Mail: Greg Pickersgill, 7a Lawrance Rd, South Ealing, London, W54KJ, UK.

SATYRICON: NZ 10th NatCon
Dates: 2-5 June, 1989
Venue: The Alplen Motor Lodge, St Andrew St, Dunedin
GOH: Still being negotiated
Rates: possibly NZ\$35
Mail: Satyricon, N.A.S.F. (Dunedin), P.O. Box 5516, Dunedin, Aotearoa

NOREASCON 3: the 47th World Science Fiction Convention
Dates: 31 August - 4 September 1989
Rates: \$US70 till 15/3/89, \$80 to 15/7/89, \$US20 supporting, \$US45 then \$50 Children. After 15/7/89 membership can only be purchased at the door.
GOH: Andre Norton, Ian & Betty Ballantine
Venue: John B. Hynes Veterans Convention Center, the Sheraton-Boston Hotel, and the Back Bay Hilton.
Mail: Noreascon 3, Box 46, MIT Branch Post Office, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.
Agents: Australia: Carey Handfield, PO Box 1091, Carlton, Vic, 3053.

[Some comments in the next column ...]

[Some comments for NOREASCON to consider...]

PR#4 finally arrived in October, dated July (3-4months). If they don't wish to be guilty of the very thing Nolacon censured Conspiracy for, viz slow mail, they will have to DO BETTER!

HUGO nomination ballots are due out in December, and due back March. Final HUGO ballots come out end of April, and are due back in JULY! (Do your own arithmetic.) Site Selection ballots will also be distributed then.

PR#5 will be sent in December, and there is a statement (and I'm quoting here) that "If you haven't received PR#5 by the middle of February, let us know and we'll rush a ballot to you.". Hey, Guys, best decide to rush them in the first place, people in Australia are NOT going to have them 2 months later at your current rate!

Also on the subject of rushing, they offer to rush copies of nomination ballots to newszines and fanzines for distribution. Thyme is quite willing to do this service, but would prefer it if the same service were also available for the final ballot and the Site Selection ballot, as these are the ballots Australia NEVER gets on time through the ConCom.]

CIRCULATION IV: (4th Canberra regional SF Convention)
Dates: 29 September - 2 October, 1989
Rates: \$20 till 1/12/88, \$30 till 1/6/89, \$10/\$15 supporting
Venue: Eaglehawk Hill Motel, Federal Hwy, Canberra
Mail: Canberra Science Fiction Society, Circulation 4, P.O. Box 47, Civic Square, ACT, 2608

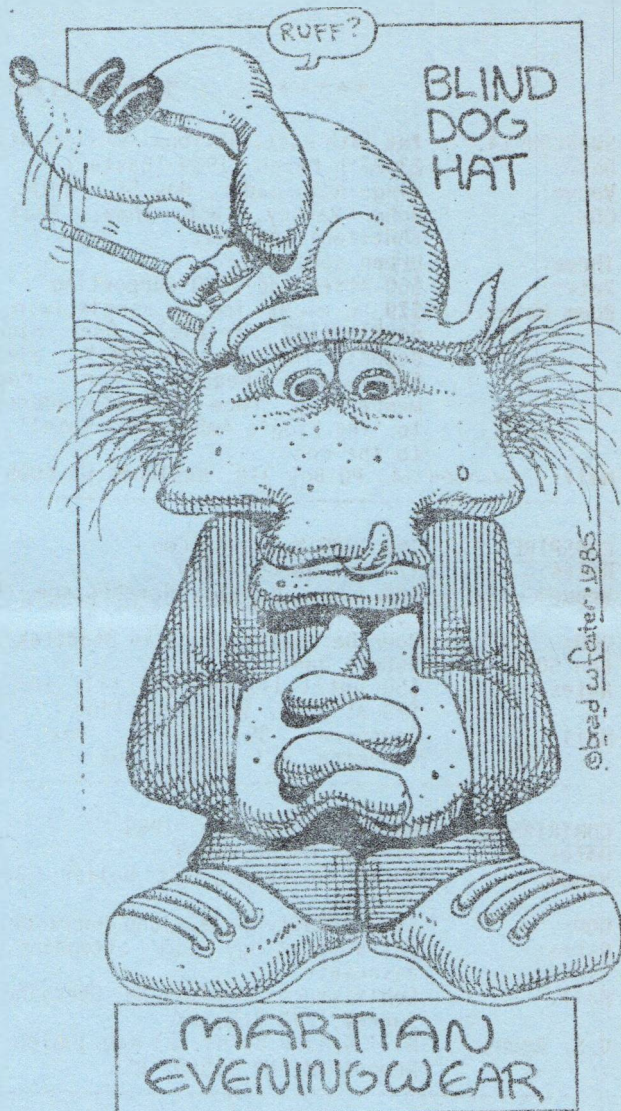
DANSE MACABRE: The 29th Australian National Science Fiction Convention
Dates: Friday 13th - Monday 16th April, 1990 (Easter)
Rates: Still \$30, \$15 Supporting
GOH: [Still being negotiated]
Venue: [As size of venue depends on GOH, this is just as organized.]
Mail: DANSE MACABRE, PO Box 273, Fitzroy, Vic., 3065

CONFICTION: the 48th World Science Fiction Convention
Dates: 23rd - 27th August, 1990
Rates: A\$85 Attending till 31st December 1988, A\$35 Supporting, Child (under 14 at time of Convention) A\$21 Due to currency fluctuations, these prices do change.
GOH: Joe Haldeman, Wolfgang Jeschke, Harry Harrison, Andy Porter, & Chelsea Quinn Yarbro (TM).
Venue: The Netherlands Congress Centre, The Hague, Holland.
Mail: Worldcon 1990, P.O. Box 95370 - 2509 CJ The Hague, Holland
Agents: Australia: Justin Ackroyd, GPO Box 2708X, Melbourne, VIC, 3001

HUTTCON '90: (A 1990 Media NetCon Bid, but it will go ahead win or lose)
Dates: 23-25 November 1990
Venue: The Diplomat Hotel, 12 Acland St., ST. KILDA.
Rates: \$45 to 30/6/89, \$50 to 31/12/89, Supporting \$25
GOH: As this is a NetCon bid, these can't be announced, but they are raffling the fan GOH. Anyone can enter for the miniscule fee of \$2.00 on, make it a real surprise, and be the winner!
Mail: James Allen, P.O. Box 41, West Brunswick, Vic. 3055

Edwina Harvey, 12 Flinders St, Matraville, NSW, 2036

CHICON '91: (The 1991 Worldcon)
Dates: August 29 - September 2, 1991
Venue: The Hyatt Regency, Chicago, USA
Rates: US\$50 till 31/12/88, \$75 to 31/12/89, Supporting \$20 to 31/12/88; Conversions - write! Children and others not yet announced.
GOH: Hal Clement, Richard Powers (Art), Martin Greenberg, Jon & Joni Stopa, Marta Randall (TV).
Mail: Information - P.O. Box A3120, Chicago, Illinois 60690
 Registration - P.O. Box 218121, Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221



The bit bucket

Well, we seem to have some space left, so I get fill it. With what?

Did any of our Australian readers see the series entitled "The Book Rebellion" that was run in the Melbourne Age and (I believe) the Sydney Morning Herald early November? It made interesting reading, and if you missed it (or live somewhere else) I suggest you check a library for the issues of Saturday 5 November, Monday 7th, and Tuesday 8th. The journalist, Robert Haupt, gave a detailed account of the various contests over access to the Australian market that have occurred over the last 15 or so years. Accompanying the series was a series of short 'news' items (usually page 3). In one such article it was reported that we pay on average at least 10% more than a reasonable conversion of price would indicate, especially for paperbacks. (Have a look at any books you have purchased recently, do a quick conversion of the UK or US recommended price. Did it really cost that much to ship it here? Or are the distributors inefficient? Or just greedy?) A report has gone to the Attorney-General, for publication next month. It apparently suggests altering the current 'closed market' to allow legally the direct importation of books by retailers. I urge you to pay attention when the debate begins anew, probably early next year.

- Clively (Editorial Consultant)

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*That's all Folks.
 Lynne
 17/Nov/88*

Thanks for this issue go to all the the kind folk who still talk to Thyme, especially Peter (without whose printing plant we would be lost).

DUFF: THE DOWN UNDER FAN FUND - 1989 DUFF BALLOT - NORTH AMERICA TO AUSTRALASIA

PURPOSE: The Down Under Fan Fund was created in 1972 to encourage friendship and communication between fans in North America (the United States and Canada) and Australasia (Australia and New Zealand). This travel fund is entirely supported by voluntary contributions from fans all over the world and sends winping candidates across the Pacific in an alternate race each year. A North American winner attends the Australian National Convention; an Australasian winner attends the Worldcon, or the U.S. National Convention if the Worldcon is being held outside North America.

VOTING: Voting in the 1989 race is open to anyone active in fandom prior to September 1987. Voting is by secret ballot, one vote per person. Ballots must be signed, and accompanied by a donation of at least \$2. If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, please include the name and address of a fan who can vouch for you. We will not count unverifiable votes, unsigned ballots, or ballots without the \$2 donation.

DEADLINE: Votes in this race must reach the administrators by December 31, 1988.

BALLOTING: DUFF uses a preferential ballot system which guarantees automatic runoffs until a majority is obtained. You rank the candidates in order of your preference. If there is no absolute majority for one candidate after the first count of votes, the first-place votes for the lowest-ranking candidate are dropped, and the second-place votes on those ballots are counted as first-place votes. This process is repeated until one candidate has a majority. It is therefore important to vote for second and third place on the ballot.

DONATIONS: DUFF exists solely on donations of auctionable material and money from fans. Anyone may contribute, even if ineligible to vote, and donations in excess of the voting fee are gratefully accepted. DUFF auctions are held throughout the year at conventions and material for these may be sent to the administrators or brought directly to any convention holding an auction. Checks for voting fees and donations should be made out to DUFF (sent to Lucy Huntzinger in U.S. currency) or DUFF Australia (sent to Terry Dowling in Australian or British currency).

CANDIDATES: Each candidate has posted a bond, provided signed nominations and a platform (reproduced overleaf above the ballot), and promised (barring Acts of God) to travel to the 1989 Australian National Convention, Swancon in Perth, W.A. (March 24-27, 1989) if elected.

***** SEND BALLOTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO *****

LUCY HUNTZINGER 2215-R Market St., San Francisco, CA, 94114 U.S.A

OR

TERRY DOWLING 11 Everard St., Hunters Hill, N.S.W., 2110 AUSTRALIA

 1989 DUFF BALLOT CANDIDATES PLATFORMS 1989 DUFF BALLOT

JOHN D. BERRY: A fanzine in every mailbox! That's my platform. Oh yes, and good food, good drink, and good talk for all. Even a few program items that make you think, to spice the really important parts (of a con, or a trip, or indeed a fanzine): the wit, the friendship, the peculiar carnival community that we readers and stay-at-homes engage in from time to time. And once I get home, I propose to publish as lively and as frequent a DUFF newsletter as I can, and I hope to write something small, compact, and fast about the trip.

Nominators: Moshe Feder, Jeanne Gomoll, Jerry Kaufman, Carey Handfield, and Irwin Hiran.

GREG KETTER: Howdy. If you've been to any conventions in North America in the past 15 years, you've likely seen me sitting behind a dealers table. I've attended well over 300 conventions, sometimes working on the committee, participating on panels, or, most importantly, throwing parties. I've been selling SF/Fantasy books more than half my life. I'm active in supporting small press publishing and own two SF specialty stores. I've written for fanzines, co-edited several books, and partied hardy. I've wanted to go to Australia and meet the fans and look forward to that opportunity. Oh, and I'm a good dancer, too.

Nominators: Justin Ackroyd, Bryan Barrett, Cindy Evans, Denny Lien, and Spike.

TARAL WAYNE: It's hard to write an original DUFF platform, and I'm tempted to try. (Imagine a da-daist blank to follow.) However, it's much too easy to fill pages about my fanac so I can't afford to be arty. So I appeal to you on the basis of 17 years of some of the most idiosyncratic fanwriting ("Roach Motel" to "Medical Practise"), intimate fanart (over 670 drawings, but who's counting"), and self-indulgent fanzines (DNQ, New Toy, Toronto The Ghodd) known in our microcosm. I certainly don't want to depend on my ready smile and winning ways... I'd like to win DUFF.

Nominators: Mike Glicksohn, Eric Lindsey, Stu Shiffman, Fran Skene, Jean Weber.

 PLEASE READ BOTH SIDES OF THIS SHEET BEFORE VOTING. SEND ENTIRE SHEET AS VOTE.

I vote for (rank 1-2-3):	Signature: _____
_____ JOHN D. BERRY	Name _____
_____ GREG KETTER	Address _____
_____ TARAL WAYNE	_____
_____ HOLD OVER FUNDS	_____
_____ WRITE-IN _____	Enclosed is _____ as a contribution to DUFF.

If you think your name is unknown to the administrators, please give the name and address of a fan to whom you are known: _____

REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS ENCOURAGED. IT IS THE OFFICIAL VOTING VEHICLE AND MUST BE REPRODUCED VERBATIM, FRONT AND BACK. ANYONE DOING SO SHOULD SUBSTITUTE THEIR NAME HERE:

Thyme

1989 Taff Ballot

What is TAFF? -- The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund was created in 1953 for the purpose of providing funds to bring well-known and popular fans familiar to those on both sides of the ocean across the Atlantic. Since that time, TAFF has regularly brought North American fans to European conventions and European fans to North American conventions. TAFF exists solely through the support of fandom. The candidates are voted on by interested fans all over the world, and each vote is accompanied by a donation of not less than \$1 or £1. These votes, and the continued generosity of fandom, are what make TAFF possible.

Who may vote? -- Voting in the 1989 race is open to anyone who was active in fandom prior to September 1987, and who contributes at least \$1 or £1 to the Fund. Contributions in excess of the minimum will be gratefully accepted. Voting is by secret ballot: only one vote per person, and you must sign your ballot. "Write-ins" are permitted. You may change your vote at any time prior to the deadline.

Deadline -- Votes in this race must reach the administrators by 15 January 1989.

Voting details -- (1) Taff uses a preferential ballot system which guarantees automatic runoffs until a majority is obtained. You rank the candidate in the exact order of your preference for them. If the leading first-place candidate does not get a majority, the first-place votes for the lowest-ranking candidate are dropped, and the second-place votes on those ballots are counted as first-place votes. This process repeats itself until one candidate has a majority. It is therefore important to vote for second and third place on your ballot. Also, it is a waste of time to vote for any candidate in more than one place. (2) One other requirement obtains. To win, a candidate must receive at least 20% of the first-ballot first-place votes cast on both sides of the Atlantic, separately. Any candidate failing to receive this minimum percentage on either side will be dropped, and the second-place votes on their ballots counted as first-place votes in the next ballot count. It is therefore important for candidates and their supporters to canvass fans on both sides of the Atlantic. It should be noted that, while you may send your ballot to either administrator, it will be tabulated with the other votes from the side of the Atlantic on which you reside. Finally, votes from fans not resident in either Europe or North America will not be counted towards either 20% minimum (but are almost certain to affect any given race anyway, so don't let this stop you from voting).

Hold Over Funds -- This choice, similar to "No Award" in Hugo balloting, gives voters the chance to vote for no TAFF trip this year, if the candidates don't appeal to them or if they feel TAFF should slow down its trip frequency. Hold Over Funds may be voted for in any position, and is exempt from the 20% requirement; thus, should it ultimately receive a majority of the votes on the final ballot, no TAFF trip will be held this year regardless of how many votes Hold Over Funds received on the first ballot.

Donations -- TAFF gratefully accepts freely-given donations of money and of material for auction; such generosity has sustained the Fund for over 35 years. If you are ineligible to vote, or do not feel qualified to make a choice, why not donate anyway? TAFF is fandom's oldest travel fund, and one of its worthiest causes.

Candidates -- Each candidate has posted a bond, promising—barring Acts of God—to travel to the 1989 Eastercon, Contrivance, on Jersey, in the Channel Islands, England if elected (March 24-27, 1989); and has provided signed nominations and a platform, reproduced overleaf above the ballot.

..... Send ballots and contributions to

in North America

Jeanne Gomoll
Box 1443
Madison, WI
53701-1443 USA

in Europe

Lilian Edwards
1 Braehead Rd.
Thorntonhall, Glasgow
G74 5AQ Scotland

Christina Lake
47 Wessex Avenue
Horfield, Bristol
BS7 0DE England

N. B. Make checks payable to relevant individual, NOT TO TAFF.

1989 TAFF Ballot -- North America to Europe

Robert Lichtman

Bob was a prolific fanwriter and publisher from the late 1950s and 60s, in fanzines like *Psi-Phi* and *Frap*. After a decade's retirement, he had a name transplant, returning as "Robert" in the 1980s. His fanzine *Trapdoor* was instantly popular, featuring and appealing to fans of all eras and locations, and helping to lure back other retired fans. His involvement with British fandom makes him the obvious TAFF delegate. Since all who meet him stress his enjoyable, friendly conversation he is bound to prove a popular winner. Even if, after all these years, he still hasn't learned to number every page.*

Robert Lichtman's nominators are: Linda Blanchard & Dave Bridges, Hazel Ashworth, Lucy Huntzinger, Dave Langford, and Suzanne Tompkins.

Luke McGuff

This is destined to be one of those Midwestern Hot-Dish zone campaigns that brings all fandom together like fissionable material. I've never done a faanish fanzine and hardly anyone in Britain has heard of me. But I have done some things recently worth noting: I read "Fizz Buzz" at WisCon, my own "The Really Extreme Monsters from Like, Way out" at Minicon and did the opening ceremonies at Corflu 5. If I win, I'll do all this and more, and good luck getting a trip report out of me.

Luke McGuff's nominators are: Ayedon Carol, Judith Hanna & Joseph Nicholas, Jerry Kaufman, Spike Parsons, and Stu Shiffman.

* Robert Lichtman's platform was written by Owen Whiteoak.

Please read both sides of this sheet before voting. Send entire sheet as vote.

Do not detach this portion!

I vote for (rank 1-2-3):

Name and address (legibly, please):

Name

Street

City, State, Code

Country

Phone Number

Enclosed is _____ as a contribution to TAFF. Please make checks, etc., payable to Jeanne Gomoll, Lilian Edwards or Christina Lake, not to "TAFF," and payable in the currency of that administrator's home country.

Signature: _____

If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, then in order to qualify please give, in the space below, the name and address of an active fan (not a "fan group") who is known to them and to whom you are known:

Reproduction of this form encouraged. It is the official voting vehicle and must be reproduced verbatim.
Anyone so doing should substitute their name here:

Thyme.

CUFF 1988-89 CANDIDATES' PLATFORMS
(in alphabetical order)

ROELOF GOUDRIAAN There are not many people who will wave goodbye to their fanzines when putting them in the mailbag. Roelof does; but he's a sentimental guy. He has his heart in the right place, and that's all over the world. If it's anything he's known for, it's for thinking international. Right - years ago he began A Foreign Fanzine in English, to let people know how the Dutch wrote, and things got worse. Today, he edits the European newsletter Shards of Babel. He's not too shy to be seen in person, being one of the people who helped to get Worldcon to the Netherlands. After testing out mutually clashing accents with Australian guests, he now thinks the time is right to imprint the European Continent on the Australian fanish frame of mind, and to let Australian grandeur saturate his entire being. So, if you want to find out how egg yolks mix with brandy; how many words the Dutch have for "canal"; how Roelof clings to his Pom accent while living with a Yankee; how many socks he has sent back to Down Under; why not vote Dutch? It's Goudriaan for CUFF.

Nominators: Marc Ortlieb, Jean Paul Smit, Pascal Thomas, Roger Weddall, Bridget Wilkinson.

LINDA PICKERSGILL Having learned to party from American fandom before moving on to pick up fanzine and conrunning skills in British fandom. I am now ready to explore habits of a third continent. I have the stamina necessary to be a first-rate tourist, a late-night party goer, a disco hop queen and a varied conversationalist. I also read science fiction. Most of my current fan writing is in the APA The Woman's Periodical or in other people's zines, though I have done my own Tiger Tox and I have helped run Mexicans. Most recently I organised the fan activities at Conspiracy 87 where I bullied many an Australian.

Nominators: Justin Ackroyd, Andrew Brown, John Harvey, John Jarrold, Pam Wells.

I vote for: (list 1, 2, 3 etc)

() Roelof Goudriaan () Linda Pickersgill () Hold Over Funds
() _____ (Write-In)

SIGNATURE: _____ I enclose _____ as a donation to CUFF. (Make 2
NAME & ADDRESS: _____ cheques etc payable to EVE HARVEY, or payable to
CUFF).

_____ If you think your name might not be known to the
_____ administrators and that your vote might therefore
_____ disqualified, please give the name and address of a
fan or group to whom you are known.

SEND BALLOTS AND DONATIONS TO:

EUROPE: Eve Harvey
43 Harrow Road
Carshalton
Surrey SM5 3QH, U.K.

AUSTRALIA: Irwin Hirsch
2/416 Dandenong Road
Caulfield North
Victoria 3161, Australia

This form produced by *Thyme*

Reproduction is encouraged (argued even) provided that the text is reprinted verbatim (though correction of typos would be appreciated). Please substitute your name above if you are distributing ballot forms.

GUFF 1988-89

WHAT IS GUFF? The Going Under Fan Fund (known in alternate years as the Get-Up-and-Over-Fan-Fund) was established in 1979 to further contacts between European and Australian fandom by bringing a well-known and popular fan from one hemisphere to attend a convention(s) in the other. GUFF exists solely through the support of fandom. The candidates are voted for by interested fans all over the world and each vote is accompanied by a fee of not less than £1 or A\$3. These votes and the continued interest and generosity of fandom are what makes GUFF possible.

WHO MAY VOTE? Voting is open to anyone who has been active in fandom (fanzines, conventions, clubs, etc) prior to January 1987 and who contributes at least £1 or A\$3 to the fund. Contributions in excess of this minimum are gratefully accepted. Only one vote per person is allowed: proxy votes are forbidden and you must sign your ballot. Details of the voting will be kept secret. "Write-in" candidates are permitted. Cheques, postal orders and money orders should be made payable to GUFF if in A\$ and Eve Harvey if in £ (if you cannot provide these, any other currency should be in notes, but we'd prefer not to incur the additional transaction costs if possible).

VOTING DETAILS GUFF uses the Australian preferential ballot system, which guarantees an automatic run-off and majority win. You rank the candidates in the order in which you wish to place them. If the leading first-place candidate does not get a majority of the total votes cast the first-place votes of the lowest-ranking candidate are dropped and the second-place votes on those ballots are then counted. The process goes on until one candidate has a majority. It is therefore important to vote for second and third place on your ballot. It is also a waste of time to put any candidate in any more than one place.

HOLD OVER FUNDS This choice, similar to the "No Award" in the BSFA and Hugo Award balloting, gives the voter the chance to vote for no GUFF trip, should the candidates not appeal to them or if they feel that GUFF should slow down the frequency of its trips.

DONATIONS GUFF needs continuous donations of money and material to be auctioned in order to exist. If you are ineligible to vote or don't feel qualified to vote, why not donate anyway? Just as important as donations is publicity - in fanzines, letters, convention booklets, and by word of mouth - to increase voter participation and fandom's overall interest in and awareness of GUFF.

THE CANDIDATES Each candidate has promised, barring acts of God, to travel to the 1989 National Con (June/July 14), in Perth, Australia, if elected, has posted a bond and provided nominations and a platform, which is reproduced overleaf, along with the ballot form.

DEADLINE Votes must reach the administrators by midnight on 26 November 1988 (local time).

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