

ARTYCHOKE

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Edited by

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Well, it's that time of year again - award time. And there's been some interesting developments in the award categories. For the first time, people could nominate for both the Ditmar Awards *and* the ASFMA's simultaneously - indeed, they could use the same form. Consequently, there is considerable overlap, though perhaps not as much as one would have expected. *Artychoke's* brief is art, so let's look at the art categories; the nominees for the Best Fan Artist Ditmar are (in alphabetical order, and trust me, there's no truth in Alan Stewart's bleatings about donkey-votes. People don't vote alphabetically in fannish awards, there wouldn't be any point - he's just grizzling because his surname's at the opposite end of the alphabet to mine) - Ian Gunn, Craig Hilton, Pamela Rendell, Steve Scholz, Kerri Valkova and Phil Wlodarczyk. The Best Fan Artist ASFMA is between Ian Gunn, Darren Reid, Steve Scholz, Kerri Valkova and Phil Wlodarczyk. Obviously some people have been nominating in only one category. Interesting.

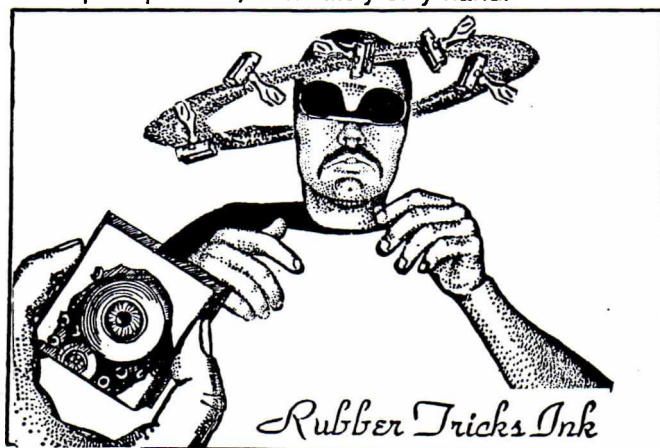
Another development is that this year finally sees the introduction of the professional artwork category in the Ditmars. Two nominees - a book cover and a model dragon. The trouble with this category is that there are very few professional Australian artists known to fandom. The NSW triumvirate of Marilyn Pride, Lewis Morley and Nick Stathopoulos spring immediately to mind. I don't consider my own current professional endeavours SFnal or Fannish enough to qualify, but I'm surprised Steve Scholz's MAD Magazine work didn't get on the ballot, or various artist's work in prozines such as *Australian Realms* and *Eidolon*. The grapevine tells me that *The 1994 George Ivanoff Diary* apparently scored enough nominations to get into the Best Pro Artwork category, but was rejected by the Powers That Be who felt it was more a "fanzine" than a "work of art". Pretty narrow definition of what constitutes "art" if you ask me (and a pretty *broad* definition of what constitutes a fanzine - a category in which it did not receive enough nominations to be in the race) though I think the *professional* aspect would be debatable - it was a fannish endeavour.

A more broadminded category is the Best

Audiovisual ASFMA. As well as the usual video compilations, this years nominations include, quite rightly, a series of faannish answering machine tapes, thus proving that some nominators are willing to break with tradition. It's also worth noting that two of the Fiction Zine nominees are comics; *Steve & Martin's Excellant Fanzine* and *Yukkies*.

FEATURE ARTIST - LARRY COTTER

Better known by his pseudonym, Rubber Tricks Ink, Larry is a Mail Artist who creates surreal scenes by cunning juxtaposition of rubber stamp images. His works have appeared in various exhibitions and contests, as well as a range of publications including *Rubberstampmadness*, *Philip K. Dick Society Newsletter*, *Venusian Travelogue* and *San Diego Arts Calendar*. He produces a tabloid parody called *The Rubber Tattler* (the only regular, full colour zine I've ever seen) and, each year, runs a Mail Art project called "The Annual Tricks Invitational" This consists of him getting hold of an embarrassing photo of one of his correspondents, converting it into a rubber stamp design and sending copies out to a hundred or so participants. These people then create postcards incorporating the stamp and other stamps, and send them back to be printed up in a collection zine. Your Humble *Artychoke* Editor just happens to be this year's victim. The picture overleaf features part of the stamp in question, fortunately only hand.

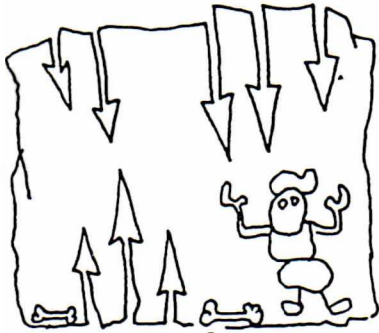


Rubber Tricks Ink by Larry Cotter (or vice versa)

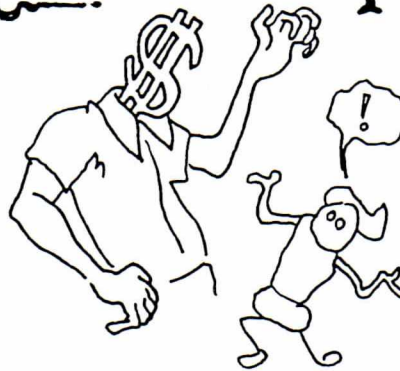


The Ladder of Escape

 OCT '87.



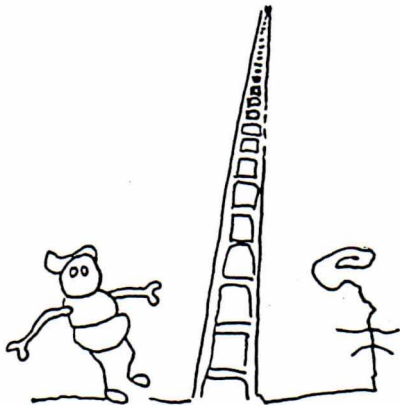
I WAS TRAPPED IN A
HORRIBLE WORLD



MONSTERS WERE DISGUISED
AS HUMAN BEINGS



SO I RAN AND RAN



I CAME TO A LADDER THAT
LED UP TO SAFETY



SO I CLIMBED THE LADDER
TO AN OPENING IN THE SKY

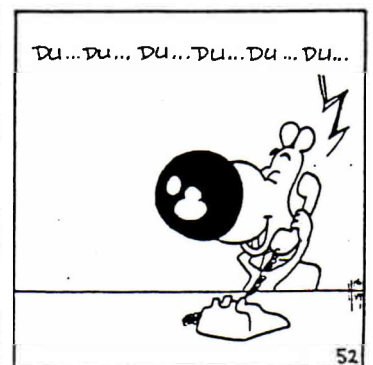
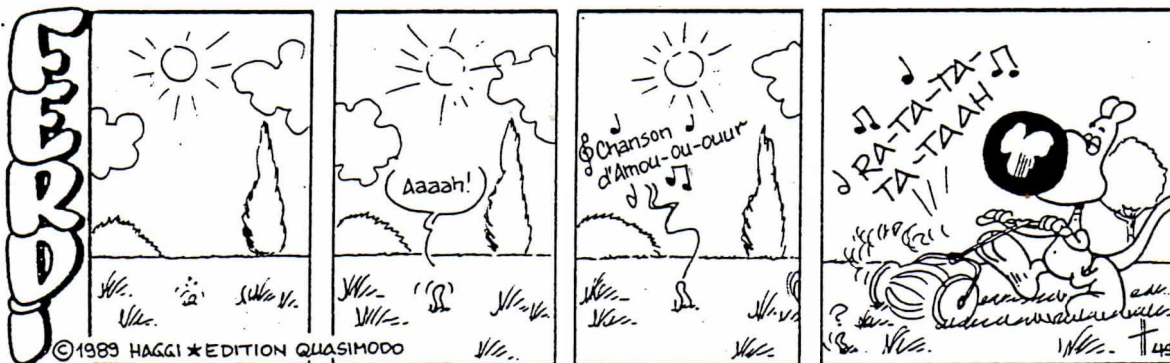


AND I FOUND A WONDERFUL
PLACE THERE.

Previous Page; Larry 'Rubber Tricks Ink' Cotter,
California, U.S. of A.

Above; Phil Wlodarczyk, Victoria, Australia.

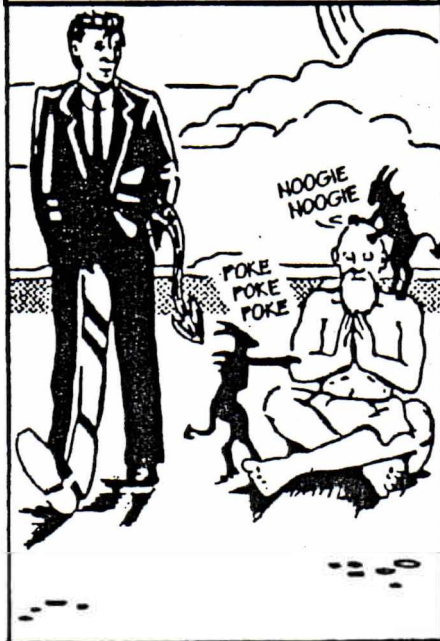
Below; Hartmut 'Haggi' Klotzbucher, Germany.



A PARABLE

ripped off
from
Oscar Wilde

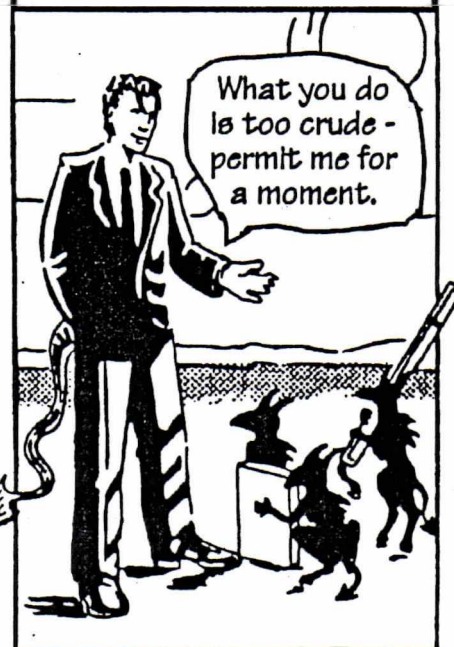
The devil was once crossing the Libyan desert when he came upon a spot where a number of small fiends were tormenting a holy hermit.



The sainted man easily shook off their evil suggestions.



The devil watched their failure and stepped forward to give them a lesson....



Your brother has just been made Archbishop.



A scowl of malignant jealousy at once clouded the serene face of the hermit



"Now that" said the devil "is the sort of thing that I would recommend"



It is easy to sympathise with a friends distress, but harder to sympathise with their success.

unsuccessful child molester at work:



Previous page; Tonia Walden, Queensland, Australia.

Above; Kit Lively, Connecticut, U.S. of A.

Below; Ian Gunn, Victoria, Australia.

Following page; Neale Blanden, Victoria, Australia.

Crash Wednesday

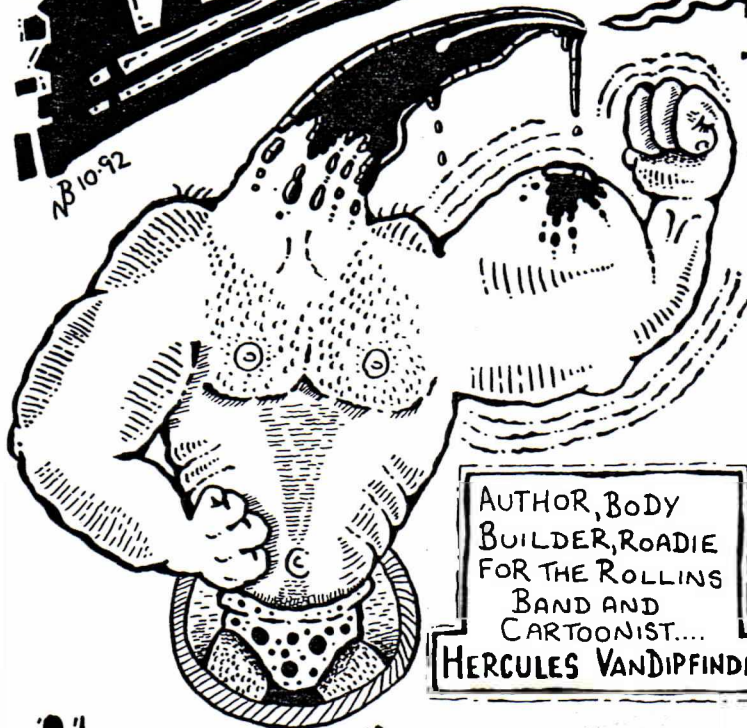
~ a true story ~

by *Ian Gunn* WEDNESDAY 9TH FEB. 1994

<p>I DECIDED NOT TO CATCH THE STOPPING-ALL-STATIONS TRAIN. EVEN THOUGH I WOULD'VE GOT A WINDOW SEAT TO MYSELF, I'D ARRIVE AT WORK TEN MINUTES LATER THAN IF I WAITED FOR THE EXPRESS.</p>	<p>WE'D JUST GONE THROUGH THE LEVEL CROSSING AT SURREY HILLS WHEN THE TRAIN SCREECHED TO A HALT. THE SMELL OF SMOLDERING BRAKE PADS FILLED THE CARRIAGE.</p>	<p>WE WAITED. THERE WERE GARBLED ANNOUNCEMENTS NOBODY UNDERSTOOD. EVENTUALLY WE WERE TOLD TO DISEMBARK AND WALK TO THE NEXT STATION...</p>	<p>THERE WERE FIRE-ENGINES, POLICE CARS, AMBULANCES. AT THE FRONT OF THE TRAIN I SAW SOMETHING FLAT AND METALLIC WRAPPED AROUND THE DRIVER'S CAB. IT HAD ONCE BEEN A CAR.</p>	<p>SOMETHING WAS LAYING ON THE TRACK UNDER A BLUE PLASTIC TARP. I DECIDED TO KEEP WALKING.</p>
<p>THE STATION WAS PACKED WITH TRAIN LOADS OF CONFUSED COMMUTERS. I DECIDED TO KEEP GOING, AND HEADED TOWARDS CAMBERWELL.</p>	<p>I ESCAPED THE CROWDS AND TRAFFIC BY CUTTING THROUGH A PARK AND STICKING TO LEAFY BACK STREETS. I DECIDED TO PICK UP SOME ACORNS FOR NO GOOD REASON.</p>	<p>I DECIDED THAT THE CRASH WAS NATURE'S WAY OF TELLING ME TO TAKE A DAY OFF. I PHONED THE BOSS.</p>	<p>I BOUGHT A COLD DRINK. I DID SOME SHOPPING. I DECIDED TO CALL IN ON DANNY AT THE 'ALTERNATE WORLDS' COMIC SHOP. WE CHATTED FOR A WHILE.</p>	<p>THE TRAINS WERE RUNNING AGAIN. I DECIDED TO GO HOME. I THOUGHT ABOUT MORTALITY. EVERY MOMENT OF OUR LIVES IS MADE UP OF DECISIONS. ANY OF THEM COULD PROVE FATAL. YOU MIGHT CATCH THE WRONG TRAIN. OR THE WRONG TRAIN MIGHT CATCH YOU...</p>
<p>HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET TO WORK? HOW ABOUT WE SPLIT A TAXI FARE?</p>	<p>YEAH... I'M A BIT SHAKEN.</p> <p>HAVEN'T DONE THIS SINCE I WAS A KID.</p>	<p>AND IT COULD BE HOURS BEFORE THEY CLEAR THE LINE</p>	<p>I GUESS THE DRIVER JUST DECIDED TO RISK IT...</p>	

DON'T BE A WIMP!!

LEARN HOW TO CARTOON!



AUTHOR, BODY
BUILDER, ROADIE
FOR THE ROLLINS
BAND AND
CARTOONIST....
HERCULES VANDIPFINDER

SAYS FAMOUS CARTOONIST
HERCULES (THE SLAB) VANDIPFINDER.
YES BOYS AND GIRLS, ARE YOU
TIRED OF BEING A **SOCIAL**
OUTCAST?!? THEN BUY MY BOOK,
HOW TO BE INCREDIBLY
POPULAR BY DRAWING INKY
LINES. YOU'LL BE **AMAZED** AT
THE HUGE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE
WHO WILL **FLOCK** AROUND YOU,
ONCE YOU KNOW THE SECRETS
OF **CARTOONING!!!**

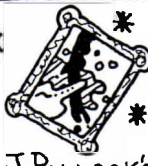
Hey kids! CAN'T DRAW? THEN **\$ELL** cartoons!!!

GIRLS AND BOYS LOVE TO SELL COMICS!!!
YOU WILL BE FINANCIALLY SECURE FOR THE REST OF
YOUR LIFE!! SO COME ON, GIVE IT A TRY, WHAT ARE YOU
WAITING FOR?!? A WORLD OF EXCITEMENT AWAITS FOR
YOU **TODAY!!**

I NEVER KNEW IT WAS SO **EASY!**
LOOK AT ALL THESE NEAT PRIZES!



V. VANGOGH'S *
'DIRTY GREAT
SUNFLOWER'
(SELL 45 CARTOONS)



K. DONE'S *
'NICE PAINTING'
(SELL 1000 COMICS)

J. POLLOCK'S *
'PAINT DRIPPINGS'
(SELL 100 COMICS)

BE LIKE YOUNG
CRAIG SPOTTY *
OF GLEN WAVERLEY

GOSH! THAT RUFFIAN
JUST THEW INK
INTO MY WIMPY FACE!



BOO-HOO! I AM
DREADFULLY SICK
OF BEING **BULLIED**
AND **PICKED-ON!**



WAIT! WHAT'S THIS?
CARTOONING!?!?
WHAT THE HECK!
I'LL GIVE IT A GO!



6 WEEKS LATER...
HI THERE YOU LITTLE SEX
MACHINE! WOULD YOU
LIKE A FUNNY DRAWING
OF A CAT?

