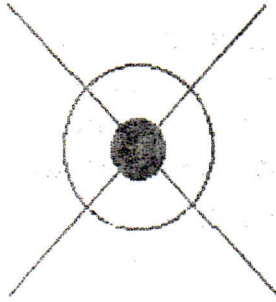


Advention '85



Isaac Asimov Free Zone





ADVENTION '85

24th National Australian Science Fiction
Convention

Date: Easter, 5th - 8th April 1985

Theme: A Celebration of Australian Science Fiction

Correspondence: 95 Second Avenue, Joslin 5070

Guest of Honour: Lee Harding, author of *Displaced Person*, *Web of Time*, *Waiting for the end of the World*, *World of Shadows*, *Return to Tomorrow*, *The Weeping Sky*, and *Fallen Spaceman*.

Committee:

Jeff Harris, Convenor and Coordinator

Allan Bray, Awards Officer,

Ian Mackereth, Programming, and Special Bampf-Effects

Chris Simmons, Publicity Officer and Balrog-Trainer

Paul Anderson, Treasurer

Warren Lawson, Visual Media Officer, alias Captain Nice

Membership:

Attending: \$25; Concession \$15 (students, pensioners, unemployed, persons under 18 yrs); Supporting \$5

Introduction:

Science fiction is fun. It is a literature of ideas. It can be about planets with carefully extrapolated ecologies and biologies, social sciences capable of predicting human behaviour on a galactic scale, or hurling spaceships, bad guys in black spacesuits, super-brained alien monsters, weird planets and ray guns. It comes in about as many forms as there are science fiction stories. Advention 5 is being held to bring people likeminded about science fiction together to enjoy themselves.

We will be departing however, from the usual concentration on British or American science fiction, and spending time looking at the neglected Australian science fiction.

Some of our sf is very good in comparison with that written elsewhere; some is not. The only way our own Australian sf can improve is if we jump up and down demanding that it get better,

or else. Even so, Adventon 5 will not be overlooking the more traditional areas of interest at sf conventions; there will be discussions about space colonies and extra-terrestrial intelligence, a presentation on an up-and-coming fantasy film, *Playing Beattie Bow*, an sf musical presentation, and a very silly play about gun-toting Hobbits performed by very silly people.

The Programme:

- . Dimensions of the Dreamtime: an overview of Australian Science fiction
- . Dreaming up the Dragons: three perspectives on the science fiction of Damien Broderick, by Michael Tolley, Span Hanna and George Turner
- . *Playing Beattie Bow*: a presentation by the S.A. Film Corporation on their forthcoming production of this award-winning Australian ghost story by Ruth Park
- . Lee Harding's Guest of Honour Speech
- . *The Maltese Balrog, or Farewell, My Precious*: Yes, at last, the long-awaited sequel to *Hobbits in Space: The Musical*. Hard boiled detective action through the urban corruption of Middle Earth. Why are they all gunning for Frodo? What happened on the Moria Street Bridge? Can the Rivendell mob really put the fix into the Big S? Can Samwise Spade crack the caper before they fit him with a concrete overcoat? An original play for the stage.
- . *Swordsmen and Sorcerors under the Southern Cross*: a discussion panel on Oz Heroic Fantasy writing
- . *The Fermi Paradox: Or: So Where Are All The Aliens?* (Carl Sagan notwithstanding)
- . *The Fabulists*: a talk on the exotic and fantastic
- . *So You Want To Be An Australian SF Writer?:* The games show that finds out whether you have the stamina and ability to be an SF writer. Not recommended for the faint-hearted. Chaired by Jeff Harris.
- . *Bringing Up The Children of Time*: three perspectives on George Turner's *Ethical Society* trilogy (inc. Michael Tolley and Jeff Harris), plus George Turner's right of reply
- . *Did You Get The Number of That Flying Saucer?:* the pseudo-sciences panel (Allan Bray, Jeff Harris, etc)
- . *What Australian SF Criticism Should Be About*: a panel of the most fearsome critics in Australia take on this cosmic mind-bender locked in a steel cage and without the benefit of a net. The best game since *Lions vs Christians*, but also an important issue.

- . Home on LaGrange: A mind-spinning discussion on the pros and cons of Gerard O'Neill's giant L5 space colonies (Jane Brooks, Neil McKinnon, Ian Mackereth)
- . Telepathic Wombats of Capella 13: A series of brief speeches by the writers present, about where they think Oz SF is going, where it should be going, and what they are doing themselves as writers: George Turner, Russell Blackford, John Baxter, John Emery, Terry Dowling etc
- . Decoding 2001: A Space Odyssey: An anthropological view on this classic science fiction film and what it says about Western culture
- . Australian Children's Science Fiction & Fantasy: A review and history of this the largest area of Australian science fiction and fantasy writing, by Felicity Anne Hughes and the S.A. Children's Book Council
- . Convenor's Address: The convention chairman will pause briefly from his never-ending battle to prove that the cosmos would be much nicer to live in if the answer to life, the universe and everything were 43 instead of 42, to discuss three of his favourite things
- . Writing for TV, film and radio: John Baxter, John Emery, Lee Harding
- . A feminist perspective on Australian SF
- . Guy Boothby and Doctor Nikola: part of Aussie SF's forgotten history. Our first SF star was an Adelaide lad, who made pots of money at the turn of the century with occultist science fantasy novels, lived the high life in London, and died nearly penniless; a sure-fire sign of success! A talk by Paul Depasquale
- . Ditmar Awards Presentation
- . Business session and site selection.

Please note that some of these items may not happen. There will be no art show at Adventon 5, nor an auction.

Constitution:

In recent years the constitution of the Australian Science Fiction Society has been progressively tinkered with. It needs to be thoroughly rewritten. Proposals to do so will be made at the business session.

Beware! There could be a foundation to your fears that the stars like dust are in the currents of space, along the Martian way to the end of eternity; that you will be locked in caves of steel by the rest of the robots and exposed to the naked sun! Even if the Earth is room enough, you are suffering from the first symptoms of Asimovophobia!

ASIMOVOPHOBIA :

A morbid or abnormal fear of Isaac Asimov. Acute sufferers spend all their time flying to avoid the Big Ike. Very psychologically and financially debilitating. Asimovophobes have to avoid sf conventions because of the high probability of meeting Isaac Asimov. There is no known cure for this malady, and the affliction is as yet unrecorded by medical science.

Letters:

Dear Adventon 5 People,

Hallelujah! At last, a convention I can attend. I am a chronic asimovophobe and a result have been unable to attend sf conventions as the probability of meeting Isaac Asimov increases exponentially with proximity to the convention. Since your convention is to be 100% Asimov-Free, I can attend free of fear. This is the trouble with suffering from an as-yet-unrecorded illness. Now, if they could only do something about my chronic tapdancing, I would be the happiest housewife and mum to six children in the world.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Errol Flange

Conclusion

The primary aim of any sf convention is to enable people to meet, share their thoughts and feelings about sf, have serious discussions and debates about it, and have a good time.

Many people misunderstand what it means to be 'serious' about sf at conventions. They feel that being 'serious' is very silly. The trouble is that they are so dreadfully serious about not being serious that they have partly lost the knack of enjoying themselves properly. The true secret of really enjoying yourself and having a good time is to play the game as seriously as possible; something which children know but adults forget. Adventon 5 offers four days of very serious enjoyment and if you like science fiction, consider yourself automatically invited to join in the fun.

Achtung!!! All interstate fans and other aliens!

HOTEL BOOKINGS AND ACCOMODATION

Hotel accomodation in Adelaide over the Easter Holiday weekend is as tight as the elastic in a virgin's knickers. For example, the Townhouse had only 24 rooms available over Easter, as at 31/1/85; they expect them all to be booked in the near future. Please book your hotel accomodation IMMEDIATELY, unless you wish to doss under the river Torrens bridge.

The Townhouse, Hindley Street, Adelaide

Room Rates : single \$54 per night; doubles \$58 per night, plus \$4 per extra person

Telephone: (08) 211 8255; (08) 88 8241 (local call charge only)

N.B.: Accomodation at the Townhouse should be arranged directly with the hotel, which a 008 telephone number makes easy. We suggest the best value would be to book a triple room. You will have to make your own sharing arrangements.

Festival Lodge Motel, 140 North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000
(Enter off Bank Street)

Room Rates: single \$35 per night; double/twin \$40 per night

Telephone: (08) 212 7877

N.B.: Advention 5 is holding a dozen double/twin rooms for members until Friday March 8th, 1985. You can either place bookings directly with the Festival Lodge, remember to notify them that you are with the 24th Australian Science Fiction Convention, or contact the committee to place a booking with the Festival Lodge on your behalf, provided you lodge a deposit for the first night's accomodation. Please supply the dates you will be staying at the Festival Lodge.

ADVENTION '85
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please register me as a member of ADVENTION '85 Supporting _____
Attending _____

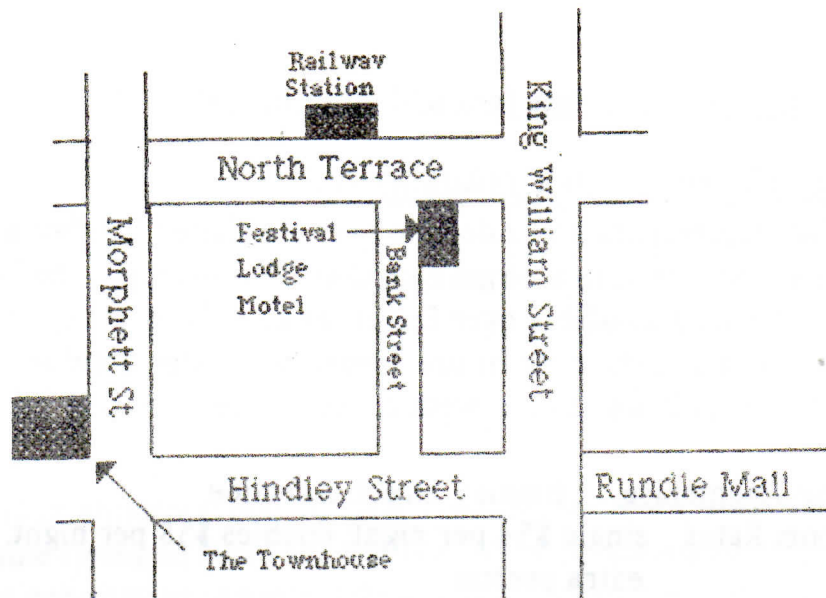
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

-----POSTCODE-----

FESTIVAL LODGE MOTEL DEPOSIT \$ _____ (ONE NIGHT MINIMUM)

SINGLE _____ DOUBLE _____ I am entering the masquerade YES/NO



Ansett.

Ansett are pleased to have been chosen as the official airline for your conference.

To ensure that you benefit from any discounts which may apply to economy class travel, please contact the **Convention Travel Department** at your nearest Ansett office and quote the following reference and file numbers.

Similarly, if you book through a travel agent, please insist they contact the **Ansett Convention Travel Department** for maximum benefits that may apply to your conference.

Ref No. S5N83B	File No. 1766
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Adelaide
150 North Tce.
(08) 217 7222. Extn. 1247

Alice Springs
Cnr. Todd & Parsons Sts.
(089) 50 4100

Brisbane
Cnr. Queen & George Sts.
(07) 228 8222

Burnie
Cnr. Mount & Wilmot Sts.
(004) 31 2166

Cairns
84 Lake St.
(070) 50 2211

Canberra
62 Northbourne Ave.
(062) 45 6511

Darwin
46 Smith Street Mall
(089) 80 3211

Devonport
109 Rooke St.
(004) 24 1411

Hobart
178 Liverpool St.
(002) 38 0800

Launceston
54 Brisbane St.
(003) 32 5293

Mackay
99 Victoria St.
(079) 57 1571

Melbourne
489 Swanston St.
(03) 342 2535

Mount Isa
8 Miles St.
(077) 44 1767

Newcastle
Suite 1, King House
184-202 King St.
(049) 69 3444. Extn. 1210

Perth
Cnr. St. Georges Tce.
& Irwin St.
(09) 323 1191

Proserpine
40 Main St.
(079) 45 1433

Rockhampton
137 East St.
(079) 31 0711

Surfers Paradise
Shop 6,
Cosmopolitan Centre
Cnr. Beach Rd. &
Gold Coast Hwy.
(075) 318 100

Sydney
Oxford Square
Cnr. Oxford & Riley Sts.
(02) 268 1210

Townsville
350 Flinders Mall
(077) 81 6611

Woolongong
151 Crown St.
(042) 296 299