

## Sessions Timetable for Saturday

Time	Conference Room 1	Conference Room 2	Conference Room 3	Foyer
Sat 10:00	<b>A second life - why would I want one?</b> Second Life, World of Warcraft, Everquest... what's the attraction of these burgeoning virtual worlds? What do people do there? Who's making a living from them - and in them? What does this mean for real-world economics, human relationships and our very notion of what is real? Russell Blackford, Dave Cake, Paul Poulton	<b>What are the big cliches of fantasy?</b> What are the big cliches of fantasy? Do you avoid them, use them or exploit them? Jane Routley, Jenny Blackford, Pamela Freeman, Richard Harland	<b>Harry Potter - hero or zero?</b> Is JK Rowling's creation the gold standard of YA fiction, or just another hack-written burnt offering? Lucy Zinkiewicz, Sue Bursztynski, Ian Irvine, Chris McMahon	
Sat 11:00	<b>History of imaginative fiction for YA/children</b> Richard Harland	<b>Where are the new dangerous visions?</b> Have SF and fantasy gone safe and sound to avoid alienating the mainstream audience? Where are the risky, edgy works in the fields of politics, sexuality, racism and real-world issues? Jack Dann, Lucy Sussex, Gillian Polack, Dena Taylor	<b>Zombie Flesh Eaters Ate my Baby!</b> The many forms of zombiism. Are they just misunderstood souls with a penchant for long pig? Robert Hood, Robert Stephenson, Kirsytn McDermott, Alan Stewart	
Sat 11:30	<b>"The Stone Key" - Isobelle Carmody</b> A sneak preview of the next Obernewtyn book The Stone Key, due out at the end of the year, and a confession from the author, Isobelle Carmody. A must for fans of the Obernewtyn Chronicles. To be filmed. Isobelle Carmody			
Sat 11:50	<b>"Son et Lumiere" - Ian Nichols</b> Reading. Complete short story from Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine (2007). Does a person choose to live without joy, without all the things which give him pleasure, which make him what he is, or to die as a whole person? The choice is light, then dark, or dwindling grey for much longer. How much is colour worth to you? Music? Taste? Ian Nichols			
Sat 12:00		<b>Fannish Auction</b> Items on auction will be sold by individuals or by the Fan Funds: GUFF, DUFF, FFANZ and NAFF. Justin Ackroyd as auctioneer.	<b>Are we just the 51st state?</b> Is there such a thing as a distinctive Australian voice in speculative fiction? And if so, what in tarnation is it? Russell Blackford Jack Dann Donna Hanson Stuart Mayne	
Sat 12:10			<b>How to Create a Comic Strip</b> Presentation. Craig Hilton takes you from an idea, a blank sheet of paper. and a fat texta to a finished strip. (Dealers room.) Craig Hilton	
Sat 13:00				
Sat 14:00	<b>Isobelle Carmody Guest of Honour Speech</b> Isobelle Carmody			
Sat 15:00	<b>World building 101</b> Ready to create new worlds? Great! But are you sure you've thought of everything? Ian Irvine, Gillian Polack, Robert Stephenson, Keith Stevenson	<b>Is fantasy really about good versus evil?</b> Tansy Roberts, Glenda Larke, Pamela Freeman, Richard Harland	<b>Wild Palms</b> An Oliver Stone TV series made in the 1980s set in 2007. Its reaction to Reaganomics in the 80s is a powerful message in post 9-11 America. Bizarre and studied madness. Terry Frost, Dave Cake	<b>Megatokyo Q&amp;A</b> (Dealers room.) Fred Gallagher
Sat 16:00	<b>Creativity - the Improbable Aircraft - Mark Shirrefs and Jack Dann</b> A discussion about creativity as it applies to science fiction and fantasy in film and novels. A screening of the Academy Award nominated film The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello from Mark Shirrefs, a reading from Jack Dann's bestseller The Memory Cathedral. Mark and Jack will also be discussing their exciting new projects. Plenty of giveaways. Jack Dann, Mark Shirrefs, Jenny Blackford (session continues until 5.30pm)	<b>Eating Ancient Food: historical foodways for writers, readers, fans and chocolate lovers</b> How can food hold societies together and split them asunder? Why should writers pay attention to it? Gillian illustrates her talk with anecdotes about butchers, suicidal ancient Roman gourmands, and a sample of medieval Viagra. Gillian Polack	<b>Digital Rights</b> Free downloads of art, music, books and software. Is it a good thing? Trish Smyth, Dave Cake, Dave Freer	

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Sat 16:30	(Creativity panel continues until 5.30 pm)	<b>Fiddlin' with History</b> Are alternative histories just parody, or are there some deeper literary or other purposes to them? Ian Nichols	(Digital Rights panel continues until 5.00 pm)	
Sat 17:00		<b>Fandoms in Europe and Australia: Getting Up and Getting Down</b> GUFF sends fans between Australia/NZ and Europe. Damien and Juliette tell of their adventures meeting fans across northern Europe in 2005. English fan Ang Rosin talks of her current trip to Australia to meet fans here. Angela Rosin, Juliette Woods, Damien Warman	<b>Teen Angst</b> Why can't kids be happy? Abuse, death, family separations, poverty, isolation and alienation. Why can't teenage YA characters have normal, fulfilling lives? Lucy Sussex Cath Ortlieb	
Sat 17:30			<b>I wish I'd thought of that!</b> Just how difficult is it to be creative, to come up with something shockingly new? This is not a "seven-step plan", but it just might fan an ember or two out there. Keith Stevenson	
Sat 18:00			<b>Dark Space - Marianne de Pierres and The Darkness Within - Jason Nahrung</b> Hachette Livre Australia invites you to celebrate the launch of two exciting new books. Refreshments will be provided. Marianne de Pierres, Jason Nahrung, Hachette Livre	
Sat 18:30				
Sat 19:00				
Sat 20:00				<b>The Australian SF (Ditmar) Awards recognise excellence in Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror by Australians for work published or released during 2006</b> Ditmar Awards Presentation Ceremony Isobelle Carmody, Fred Gallagher, Cath Ortlieb, Dave Freer, committee
Sat 21:30	<b>CLOSE FOR DAY</b>			

## Sessions Timetable for Sunday

Time	Conference Room 1	Conference Room 2	Conference Room 3	Foyer
Sun 10:00	<b>Anthology of Interest and Dark Carnival Short Film Collection</b> Brilliance on a budget! Shorts on a shoestring! Barnard's Star Productions proudly presents some of the best and most imaginative of recent Australian-made science fiction short films for your viewing enjoyment and critique. Graham Garfield	<b>I hate my cover!</b> What sells and what does not. What is "commercial art"? Isabelle Carmody, Craig Hilton, Dave Freer	<b>Slippage on the Liminal</b> True horror is found in those moments of spooky hesitation, where the familiar slips into something else. Rjurik Davidson, Robert Hood, Paul Haines, Kirsytn McDermott	
Sun 11:00	<b>Fred Gallagher Guest of Honour Speech</b> Fred Gallagher	<b>Natcon Business Meeting</b> concerned parties	<b>Science Fiction and Fantasy in the School Curriculum</b> Where and what is it? Should we be excited or disappointed? Ian Nichols, Sue Bursztynski, Cath Ortlieb	
Sun 12:00	<b>How to Promote your Book</b> So, you sold your idea to the publisher and the book's in print. But there are thousands of new titles out there, so how do you make yours rise above the competition and generate some real sales? Ian Irvine	<b>Lay down your mystical amulet and grab hold of this!</b> Medieval battle, like life, was nasty, brutish and short. Learn what it was really like to lift a bloody big sword. Chris Barnes, Paul Kidd, Stuart Mayne	<b>Making a Business from Comics</b> Craig Hilton, Fred Gallagher, Avi Bernshaw	
Sun 12:30	<b>"The Dove Game" - Isabelle Carmody</b> Reading. From Gathering the Bones (edited by Jack Dann, Ramsey Campbell and Dennis Etchison). Isabelle Carmody			
Sun 12:50				
Sun 13:00		<b>Grumpy old fans</b> Old fans talk about the fandom of today and what's wrong with it. In the style of the TV show Grumpy Old Men. Lucy Zinkiewicz, Cath Ortlieb, Terry Frost, Ian Nichols		<b>Piro - Megatokyo signings</b> (Dealers room.) Fred Gallagher
Sun 14:00	<b>What's Coming Up</b> What movies are people looking forward to seeing soon? Trailers and teasers shown. Mitch, Terry Frost	<b>"Melded Child" - Jane Routley</b> Reading - fantasy. Sequel to the Three Sisters published pseudonymously under the name Rebecca Locksley. Yani, eldest of the Three Sisters, has been kidnapped and the trail leads back to Necromancers in Miraya. But is the trail too obvious? Jane Routley	<b>Awards - not worth the gilded plastic they're stamped from</b> It's a thrill to get one, or to appear in a year's best, but isn't it all just a non-representative wank? Robert Stephenson, Claire Brialey, Dianne de Bellis, Paul Haines, Keith Stevenson	
Sun 14:20		<b>"Nigella and the Clockwork Man" - George Ivanoff</b> Reading - horror. From Shadow Plays (edited by Elise Bunter). George Ivanoff		
Sun 14:40		<b>"Pyramid Power" - Dave Freer</b> Reading - humour. "My Kingdom for a Norse." The alien Krim battle humanity in a world of Norse myth... with Thor on a 12-point plan, and the midgard serpent wrestling with anorexia. Mythology, misadventure and bad puns. Dave Freer		

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Sun 15:00	<b>Approaching the craft</b> Just how do you get from flash of inspiration to finished novel? The paths can be many and strange. Isobelle Carmody, Dave Freer, Kate Forsyth, Paul Kidd, Ian Irvine	<b>Inspirational Journeys</b> Fans and writers talk about the stories they read in their early years which gave them their sense of wonder, and how those tales inspired their own work in the field. Jane Routley, George Ivanoff, Richard Harland, Stuart Mayne	<b>Outland - "Max has a shameful secret... he's a science fiction fan..."</b> The Ditmar-nominated short film Outland. A gay comedy of geek shame played at film festivals around the world. Followed by a Q&A with the film makers. Stars Adam Richard, Wes Snelling, Scott Brennan, Narrelle Harris and Anthony Menchetti. John Richards	
Sun 16:00	<b>Where the futurists got it wrong</b> Aaah, the 21st century at last. But where's my personal rocket pack, and why doesn't my mobile work in Hall's Gap? Joel Shepherd, Stuart Mayne, Alessio Bresciani	<b>A Tag-team, Create Your Own Space Opera Session</b> Audience suggestions for a space opera. Narrated by Paul Kidd and illustrated by Craig Hilton. Wacky and zany fun. Paul Kidd, Craig Hilton	<b>A Talk with Isobelle Carmody</b> Richard Harland talks with Isobelle Carmody about writing, fantasy and fiction for young readers. Plus anything else under the sun. A couple of readings are strongly predicted, and a cat's tail and ears are almost guaranteed! Isobelle Carmody, Richard Harland	
Sun 17:00	<b>The lure of the apocalypse</b> Whether it's The Rapture you're after or something darker, there's just something so nice about contemplating the "end times". Why? Andrew Macrae, Cat Sparks, Robert Hood, Kirsytn McDermott (ends 6.00 pm)	<b>"A Mankind Witch" - Dave Freer</b> Reading - humour. A pagan relic has been stolen. Princess Signy stands accused of magical murder and theft. Cair, captured and enslaved by the Norse, does not believe in this superstitious claptrap. But he will rescue her, if he has to take on Grendel himself. Dave Freer	<b>The YA format - shh, don't tell the parents</b> Just what can you get away with in a YA novel, what is still "taboo", and should we be concerned? George Ivanoff, Kate Forsyth, Sue Bursztynski, Richard Harland (ends 6.00 pm)	
Sun 17:20		<b>"Doof Doof Doof" - Paul Haines</b> Reading - fantasy/horror. From Doorways for the Dispossessed. Aurealis-nominated horror short story that follows the pitfalls of Wolf in his romantic pursuit of Red Riding Hood, while attempting to deal with his nemeses the Three Little Pigs. It sure ain't kosher. Rated R. Paul Haines		
Sun 17:40		<b>"Sasha" - Joel Shepherd</b> Reading - fantasy. From Sasha Volume I of A Trial of Blood and Steel by Joel Shepherd. A sneak preview of this soon-to-be-released exciting new epic. Joel Shepherd (ends 6.00 pm)		
Sun 19:00				<b>Orb #7 launch and The Liminal cocktails</b> Orb speculative fiction magazine is back, and The Liminal has arrived. Celebrate the launch of the starship issue #7 with its spaceworthy authors and artists, along with the cast and crew of the new film, over complementary drinks and nibbles. Sarah Endacott, Claire McKenna, authors, actors and artists
Sun 19:30			<b>The Liminal - twenty tentacles, a bucket of slime and a Handycam...</b> Over a year in the making, using all the resources of Bunnings, Spotlight and eBay at her command, Claire McKenna is proud to bring you in glorious colour, the first-time screening of a man, a squid-girl, and technology gone wrong. Claire McKenna, cast and crew	
Sun 21:00	CLOSE FOR DAY			

## Sessions Timetable for Monday

Time	Conference Room 1	Conference Room 2	Conference Room 3
Mon 10:00	<b>Looking for the hook?</b> Do authors consciously look for a hook to catch the reader? Can you have too many hooks? Authors and readers discuss. Isabelle Carmody, Lucy Sussex, Pamela Freeman, Joel Shepherd	<b>Orc Liberation Front</b> Are the Orcs a racist stereotype? Jane Routley, Dave Cake, Dave Freer	<b>Writing for the screen</b> Why it's so different from writing for print. Charles Spiteri, Paul Kidd, Mark Shirrefs, Claire McKenna
Mon 11:00	<b>Cath Ortlieb Fan Guest of Honour Speech</b> Cath Ortlieb		<b>Themed or Unthemed - what is the better type of anthology?</b> Are themed collections just gimmicks? Does a theme expand or limit a writer's output? Is "Australian" a theme? Authors, editors and readers discuss the relative merits of each approach, reflect on their experiences and show off some famous examples. George Ivanoff, Sarah Endacott, Robert Hood, Nicole Murphy
Mon 12:00	<b>The revenge of the past: Ghosts, Zombies and other Aesthetics of Horror</b> "Horror" as a genre is a muddy concept. It's often discussed in terms of physical threat - violence, serial killers, lunatics, torture. Naturalistic "thriller" tropes are not the whole story. Maybe they're not the story at all. Robert Hood examines just how relevant the immaterial can be in a materialistic society. Robert Hood	<b>Keeping it Real</b> A talk focused on good characterisation. Speculative fiction sometimes favours world building over character building. But world building is only another kind of characterisation, and without good characters, there is no deep connection with a reader. Isabelle Carmody	<b>Blacksmithing</b> "Of the four elements, air, earth, water and fire, man stole only one form the gods: fire. And with it man forged his will upon the world." Where did the woodcutter get his axe? The carpenter his hammer and chisels? The farmer his hoe and plough? The soldier his armour and sword? The butcher and cook their knives? Stephen Gleeson
Mon 12:30	<b>"A Guided Tour in the Kingdom of the Dead" - Richard Harland</b> Reading - fantasy/horror. The Egyptians were the greatest navigators of the land that lies on the other side of death. The inspiration for this short story, to be published in Dreaming Again (edited by Jack Dann), was a map in an ancient tomb in the Valley of the Kings. Richard Harland		
Mon 12:50			
Mon 13:00			<b>ASFF meeting</b> Open meeting of the ASFF all welcome
Mon 14:00	<b>Fantasy's dark cousin</b> Dark fantasy - that's where the really innovative stuff in the genre is going on. Kirsytn McDermott, Lucy Sussex, Richard Harland, Miranda Siemienowicz	<b>Subvert the Dominant Paradigm</b> Alternatives to epic Europe-derived fantasy can still be found. Which are the best and what can they teach us about breathing new life into the genre? Jenny Blackford, Glenda Larke, Joel Shepherd, Gillian Polack	<b>Otaku-Rama, Cool Japanese and Korean Madness</b> Anime, film, TV, Japanese pop culture in general. Korean genre films. Terry Frost, Avi Bernshaw
Mon 15:00	<b>Closing ceremony</b> Isabelle Carmody, Fred Gallagher, Cath Ortlieb, Dave Freer, committee		
Mon 15:30 CLOSE FOR DAY			