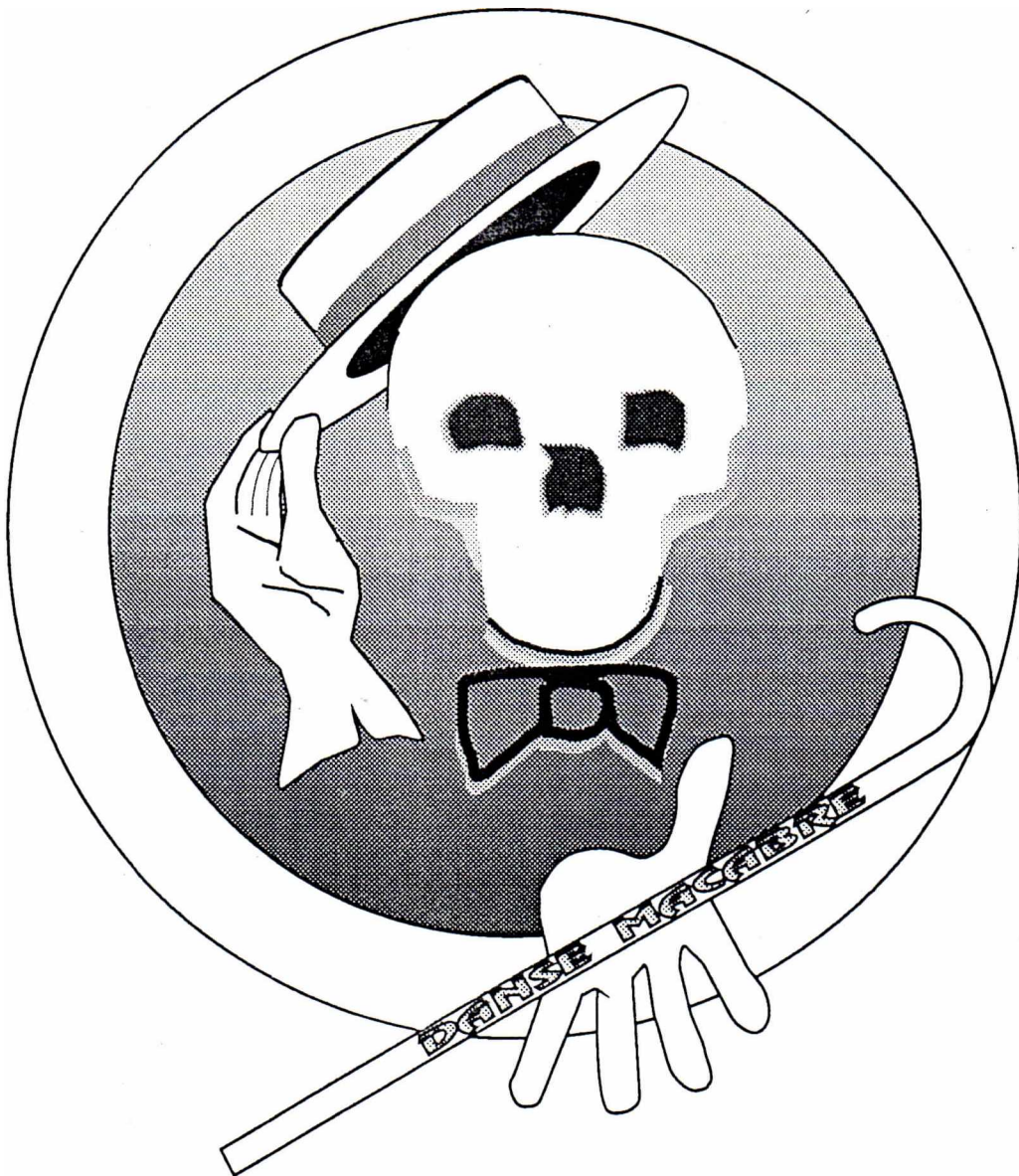


Bizarre 3



BIZARRE is the magazine of the 29th Australian Science Fiction Convention, **Danse Macabre**. Copyright 1989 by Greg Hills.

The address for all correspondence relating to **BIZARRE** or to **Danse Macabre** is:

Danse Macabre
PO Box 273
FITZROY 3065

No other address should be used unless explicitly requested by the Committee member concerned. Please indicate on the top of your letter the nature of the contents, e.g. 'for **BIZARRE**', 'Memberships', etc.

Deadline for material to be included in the next issue of **BIZARRE** is 15 September, 1989. Nominal date of publication will be the 1st of October, 1989.

Current Membership Rates for the convention are:
Attending (Adult) \$60.00 till the end of Conjunction
Attending (Child) \$30.00 till the end of Conjunction.
Supporting \$15.00
Voting Only \$5.00

An Attending membership entitles the member to all benefits of membership (including the right to attend the Convention, to receive all issues of **BIZARRE** published after the date of acceptance of that membership, and to vote for the Ditmars). A Supporting membership entitles the member to all benefits of membership except for those associated with attending the Convention. Note: Child memberships do not include voting rights for Ditmars or site selection. A Supporting membership may be converted to an Attending membership at any time prior to midnight, 31st of March, 1990, or else at the Convention Registration, by payment of the difference between the supporting fee and the then-current attending fee. A Voting Only membership entitles you to vote for the Australian SF Achievement Awards ('Ditmars'). Voting members receive a copy of the Ditmar ballot. A Voting membership cannot be credited against the fee for any other rate of membership.

Thanks for this issue go to (in no particular order):
Dennis Callegari, Mark Loney & Michelle Muijsert.

Editorial

Hello again, belatedly. Sorry about the long gap between issues of this 'bimonthly' magazine -- my fault entirely.

There have been a few changes since last issue, most particularly in that of **Fan Guest of Honour**. John Bangsund contacted us shortly after the last issue went to press, and advised us that personal matters forced him to resign the post. Eric Lindsay has accepted the mantle, and we are sure that this will meet with general approval, particularly from the many people who have met Eric at past conventions.

Note also the incremented attending membership rate. You can join **Danse Macabre** at this rate up to and including December 3, 1989, the last day of **Conjunction**.

There are some things missing from this issue that I really did want to include -- particularly the pieces on George RR Martin and on filking. Their absence is tied to the same reasons why this issue is so long-delayed. Very slack of me, I know, but that just means I can promise them to you all over again...

-- Greg Hills, 17th July 1989.



Remember!

- The theme for the **Danse Macabre Masquerade** is *Mardi Gras in New Orleans*. This should give you a wide range of costume ideas. If you've read George R R Martin's novels *Fevre Dream* and *Armageddon Rag*, you should have even more ideas.

Art Show update

Although there's still some time to go before **Danse Macabre** tangoes into our lives, here's some further news about our plans and actions.

First, money. After discussion with the estimable Margaret Hilliard (organiser, **Conviction Art Show**), the Committee has decided that the commission rate for artwork sold at **Danse Macabre** will remain at the standard 10 percent of the sale price.

Second, Art Show layout. There will be at least one lockable cabinet set up in the gallery to display jewellery and other small 3-D pieces. Paintings, drawings, etc will be displayed on movable display boards. You may have to organise the placement of LARGE items directly with me.

Third, transport and security. Procedures to handle transport of items, and their security when not at the Convention hotel, are being worked out. At the Convention itself, the artwork will be displayed in a secure area close to the main convention facilities.

Fourth, advertising. The **Danse Macabre Art Show** will be advertised on student notice-boards around the Melbourne area (and as many other cities/towns as we can get access to) in the second half of this year. If you want to help out with this placement, please drop me a line (two fathoms long), care of the Convention address.

Fifth, ideas for 'theme' art. A couple of suggestions made to me about this:

- New designs for decks of cards.
- Paintings on mirrors (small ones, I'd imagine) and other items like marbles, glasses, etc.

More Art Show news will be provided in later issues of **BIZARRE**, but for now I think it's time to quickstep out of here. One two three... One two three...

-- Dennis Callegari

GUFF

Nominations for the next GUFF race are now open.

The winner of this race will attend **Conviction**, the 48th World SF Convention (see Conlistings). In order to be a candidate one must supply the administrators (preferably the Australian administrator) with the following:

Signed nominations from three Australian and two European fans.

A platform of no more than 100 words.

A non-refundable bond of \$A15, Dutch F20 or UKL=6.

A signed promise that should you win you will travel to and attend **Conviction**.

The nomination deadline is midnight of the 16th of September 1989, at which point voting ballots will be produced. The deadline for voting will be midnight of the 21st of April, 1990.

The administrators of GUFF are:

Irwin Hirsh
26 Jessamine Ave
East Prahran 3181
AUSTRALIA

Roelof Goudriaan
Caan van Necklaan 63
2218 BB Rijswijk (ZH)
THE NETHERLANDS

Anyone requesting further information about GUFF are encouraged to write to either of the administrators.

-- Irwin Hirsh, 4/89

- **Danse Macabre** is now calling for Art to place in the Convention Programme Book. All those interested in contributing to the Programme Book should submit copies of their work to the Convention Committee. You should retain the originals for now. Further details will be announced in future issues of Bizarre.

The Con at a Glance:

Guests of Honour:

George R R Martin (professional)

Eric B Lindsay (fan)

Convention Dates: Friday 13th April 1990 to Monday 16th April 1990 inclusive.

Con Hotel is the **Diplomat Motor Inn**, in Acland Street, St Kilda. There is a second hotel nearby, the **Spaceline**, which has been completely booked by the Convention for the weekend.

Membership rates per person:

Attending (Adult)	\$60.00 till after Conjunction .
Attending (Child)	\$30.00 till after Conjunction .
Supporting	\$15.00
Voting	\$ 5.00

Make all cheques, etc, payable to '**Danse Macabre**' and mark them 'Not Negotiable'. A receipt will be mailed to you after your membership is processed. Please keep it and bring it with you to the Convention.

* 'Child' must be less than 15 years old on 13th April, 1990. Children under 5 on this date may attend free.

Hotel Bookings: Please make all bookings through **Danse Macabre**. Please enclose at least one night's room rental with each booking. Make all cheques, etc, payable to '**Danse Macabre**' and mark 'not negotiable'. **Room rates** per night are:

Single room (Diplomat only) **\$54.00**
 Double/Twin (Either Hotel) **\$59.00**
 Triple (Diplomat)/Suite (Spaceline) **\$80.00**.

Note that only the **Spaceline** has two-room Suites.

Banquet: There will be a Banquet, price \$20--\$25 per head. To help us gauge numbers, if you are interested in this event, please tick the box on the membership form.

Hucksters: There will be a separate Hucksters Room.

Daily Rates:
 Professional **\$25.00**
 Fan **\$15.00**

You also need an Attending or Day membership. Area allocation approximately 2 x 3 metres. If you have questions, please write.

Fan Lounge and Party Suite: There will be a Fan Lounge in the Diplomat and a Party Suite in the Spaceline, where members can go to sit and talk, rest, or think.

Art Show: See separate Artshow report. If you have any suggestions, send them to: Dennis Callegari, 22 Waltham Street, Richmond 3121.

Ditmars: The 1990 Australian SF Achievement Awards will be voted on by **Danse Macabre** members before and during the con. Nomination forms will be distributed to all members, and also to fandom generally, later this year. Remember that anyone may nominate for the Ditmars but that you must be a member of **Danse Macabre** to vote. Details in a later issue.

1992 Site Selection: The site for the 1992 Australian SF Convention will be decided at a meeting to be held at **Danse Macabre**. Groups interested in bidding for the right to hold the 1992 Natcon should contact us before the start of **Danse Macabre**. As with the Ditmars, you must be a member of **Danse Macabre** to vote on Site Selection.

Program Book Cover: Unlike **Conspiracy**, the British Worldcon that trusted their sponsors to produce a cover for their Program Book, we'd like to see our cover before the printing deadline comes around. But more than that, we want to see your idea of a good cover for a science fiction convention's Program Book. So we're running a contest for it. Interested? Scratch up a design and try it!

The Human Orrery: May be constructed in a nearby park one day of the Con. If interested in taking part, please drop us a line and tell us what chunk of solar-systemnal rock you prefer to be.

Creche: There will be no creche organised by the Con, but we will help you contact other members wanting a creche, so that you can form mutual support groups.

- Negotiations are under way with respect to an official Convention Airline. Now is the time for people intending to fly to Melbourne to start thinking about group bookings. More news as soon as it becomes available.

Weapons Policy: Put baldly: no exposed edged weapons, no projectile weapons. See also: **Code of Behaviour:** Individuals engaging in unacceptable behaviour may be expelled from the Con without refund of membership. At discretion of Committee, membership fee may be refunded and any individual expelled with or without reason being stated.

Smoking: Only in the lobby adjacent to function rooms at rear of the Diplomat. Note that this is a slight amendment to policy listed last issue.

Our Committee: Here is the present list of people doing things for the convention, and their jobs. If you think that you can help in any way, please do contact the appropriate person. If in doubt, ring Alan on (03) 297862 or Roger on (03) 6896427 or else drop us a letter.

Agents:

Adelaide: Carol Woolmer
Perth: Grant Stone
Sydney: Gerald Smith

Artshow: Dennis Callegari
 Bowspirit/mail: Roger Weddall
 Ditmars: Roger Weddall
 Equipment: Andrew Murphy
 Fanlounge: Michelle Muijsert
 Fanzine: Greg Hills
 GOH Liaison: Stephen Boucher
 Hotel Liaison: Peter Burns / Roger Weddall
 Programme Book: Phil Ware / Dennis Callegari
 Programming: David McDonnell
 Publicity: Peter Burns
 Secretary: Alan Wilson
 Treasurer: Phil Ware
 Videos: Richard Freeland



Letters

I was sitting in mt room, a copy of **BIZARRE 2** hanging limply from my hand, until I realized what I was truly holding...TREASURE!

For I am a lonely literature fan. In a small corner of fandom I exist, dreaming of the wider world. Occasionally I seek it out, but fall back to the silence of apathy.

So why is this copy of **BIZARRE 2** treasure? Because **Danse Macabre** is a litcon, and I need it. The last litcon I was barely able to attend. That was Eastercon '87. This will be the first in four years that I'll have failed to attend a literary convention. The next one looks to be yours in 1990, and Ghod I need it!

So I don't care what the membership fee is, I'm joining this convention. I'm gonna get there if it's the last thing I do!

...I think there's a whole fandom in existence that I don't know anything about. I've heard all these names but I don't know who the hell they are. Irwin Hirsh, Perry Middlemiss. Who the hell is Perry Middlemiss!

I am part of one section of fandom. It's a wonderful part of fandom, and I love it, but so long as there's something new to see or hear I need more.

-- Justin Semmel, 4/89

[We didn't know what to say to this. Is the length of one of our pseudopods being increased? Justin, we know that you're out there -- you're on our mailing lust; you **must** be real.

[We are, of course, pleased to hear that you'll be coming along, and naturally we suggest that you join early rather than late, but feel one minor caveat is necessary: this 'litcon' business. **Danse Macabre** is the general-interest all-walking all-embracing 1990 natcon: the one that doesn't get 'media' or other qualification put in front of the title. We like to think, while catering to the 'literary' fans (who have no natcon of their own), we'll also be offering something to interest fans who get their kicks in ways other than books.

[Write again -- and see you at **Danse Macabre**. GRH]

- This issue of *Bizarre* has been produced using Xerox Ventura Publisher and the excellent new drawing package Corel Draw, on an IBM AT compatible PC. My thanks to all you hard-working computer people out there.

(Dennis Callegari)

News From Swancon 14

(Report by Alan Stewart)

Ditmars

International SF:

Orson Scott Card, SEVENTH SON

Australian Long Fiction:

Damien Broderick, STRIPED HOLES

Australian Short Fiction:

Lucy Sussex, 'My Lady Tongue'

Fanzine:

GET STUFFED

Fanwriter:

Bruce Gillespie

Fanartist:

Ian Gunn

William Atheling Award:

Russell Blackford.

Short Story Comp (ASFF-sponsored):

1st Russell Blackford

Equal 2nd Narelle Harris, Dave Luckett.

'Getting to know one another' cryptic crossword:

Patricia Anderson, Cathy Kerrigan, Alan Stewart & ?

Rail Baron Champion: Chris Smith

Quiz winner: Terry Frost.

Fan Olympics: 'Rail Baron Winners' (versus 'Heavyweights')

Thetresports: 'The Negliges' (incl. Jack Herman and Ian Nicholls)

1991 Natcon: SunCon '91 (Brisbane) unopposed. See Conlistings.

Swancon 14, with an 'urban spaceman' theme, ran over the Easter break from Thursday afternoon to an official finish about 5pm Monday, with a kick-on Dead Dog Party later that night.

Con Hotel was the Kings Ambassador in central Perth, and the staff were helpful and courteous. Concommittee managed unauthorised parties well and as far as I know there were no major hassles. [NB: Parties were all supposed to be held on the 4th Floor. Some parties were not. These were thus 'unauthorised'. GRH]

Function rooms were fairly close together in the Basement, with central registration, bar and fan lounge to one side, and two programme halls plus Hucksters Room all on this level. A video room was on the 4th Floor and a games/Art Show room on the 3rd, both close to the lifts, of which only one accessed the Basement.

Enertaining moments of the Con include Bob Shaw's 'Serious Science' talk as well as his after-dinner speech. The masked ball saw lots of costumes, masks, and fun. I missed the Thursday night Fandance due to a Rail Baron heat.

Meeting Grant Stone was one highlight of the con. Apart from the fact that he liked GET STUFFED, he seems full of energy and enthusiasm for fandom & sf. Mark Lineman and myself 'pied' him on the Monday. We had planned to cut the pie into six pieces, one for each Ditmar, but its construction from unset raspberry jelly and 'instant' whipped cream precluded that.

Speaking of Ditmars, it was a clean sweep to Melbourne this year, apart from International Fiction. I think there were 68 valid votes received, well up on last year.

The awards this year were made from polished zebra stone (found only in WA and South Africa), mounted on a wooden plinth. Two small plaques were attached [to the plinth] -- one for the category and winner's name, the other with 'Aust. SF Achievement Award' and Southern Cross which looked like an Air Mail sticker. Tw spare pieces of zebra stone were mounted and presented to John Varley and Bob Shaw. Apparently the fine white/black type of the stone is now under Lake Argyle and unavailable. (The awards also turned out to be suitable for GET STUFFED reason #19 Why We Want A Ditmar -- 'To shove down my trousers to impress the girls', as joint acceptor Danny Heap demonstrated during the ceremony.

The Ditmar Award ceremony was taped and broadcast on Grant Stone's radio show Thursday morning, much to the surprise of Gina Goddard who was changing TV channels

at the time and discovered it could pick up the local radio station by recognising Ian Nicholls' voice!

John Varley's GoH speech was pretty serious and dealt with Salman Rushdie and Free Speech. Paul Stevens spoke of past incidents and fannish anecdotes after the banquet (his talk was moved back from Saturday as he had to work at Myers).

Relaxed pool and sauna parties marked most nights. Earnest discussion while eating & drinking seemed to pass lots of time. Some parties were livened up by the 'rinky-dinky-plop-plop-zoop-zoop-whee' fannish handshake being transferred to WA fandom.

About 50 people attended the Dead Dog party which raged at the Turkich residence on Monday night.

Generally there was a lot of catching up with old friends and getting to know people, particularly overseas visitors like the Harveys, Lynn-Anne & Roelof (GUFF), John Berry & Eileen Gunn(?) (DUFF) and Brian Howell (FFANZ), many of whom will be visiting Melbourne & Sydney during their trips.

This Swancon was definitely a success and enjoyable; now to plan to attend a future one sometime.

-- Alan Stewart

News from Conspire (1989 Nat. mediacon):

(reporter: Alan Stewart)

Aust Media SF Achievement Awards:

Zine -- SPOCK
Writer -- Nikki White
Artist -- Gail Adams
Audiovisual -- No Award.

Writing Competition winners:

Short Story: Michael Mayo
Novellette: Helen Sargeant
Poetry: Alan Stewart.

1990 National Mediacon: **Huttcon**
GoH: Simon Jones (Arthur Dent from HHGTG)
see details in Conlist.

Members as of 17 July 89:

George R R Martin
Eric Lindsay
Justin Ackroyd
James Allen
Kathryn Anderson
Patricia Anderson
Bruce Baker
Jenny Blackford
Russell Blackford
Leigh Blackmore
Lawrie Brown
Peter Burns
Dennis Callegari
Jenny Chudecki
Clare Coney
Paul Cormack
Diane De Bellis
Terry Dowling
Roy Ferguson
John Foyster
Judith Freidin
Julian Freidin
Ian Gunn
Kerrie R Hanlon
Michelle Hallett
Jack Herman
Margaret Hilliard
Greg Hills
Irwin Hirsh

Kelly Hryckiewicz
Richard Hryckiewicz
Susan Hryckiewicz
Ben James
Lesley James
Robin Johnson
Rod Kearins
Cathy Kerrigan
Eric Lindsay
Mark Linneman
LynC
Cath McDonnell
David McDonnell
John McPharlin
Kevin MacLean
Sean McMullen
Peter McNamara
Ken Moylan
Sarah Murray-White
Clive Newall
Peter Nicholls
Roger Nicholls
John Newman
Yvonne Rousseau
Cath Ortlieb
Marc Ortlieb
Michael Paddon
Karen Pender
Ralph Smith

Jessica Southton
David Spaziani
Alan J Stewart
Grant Stone
Cheryl Straede
John Straede
Charles Taylor
Diana Taylor
Morgan Taylor
Nic Taylor
John Tipper
Greg Turkich
George Turner
Janeen Webb
Roger Weddall
Alan Wilson
Judy Wilson
Linda Wilson
Lucy Zinciewicz

(77 members.)

Con Listings

If any of the following info is wrong or out-of-date, or you know of a con not listed here which should be listed, please let us know.

1989

Aug 31--Sep 4: **Noreascon 3**
47th world SF Convention.
Hynes Convention Centre, Boston.
GoH: Andre Norton, The Ballantines.
FGoH: The Stranger Club.
Sup USS20. Att USS80 (Child \$50). Door memberships after 15jul89. PO Box 46, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.

Sep 8--Sep 10: **Star Walking**
Media Con. Townhouse Hotel, Melbourne.
Sup \$25, Att \$60 (\$75 at Door).
Rooms: \$82 double, \$93 triple-share.
PO Box 118, Springvale 3171.

Sep 29--Oct 2: **Circulation IV**
Eaglehawk Hill Hotel, Canberra.
Sup \$15, Att \$30 till 1jun89.
Box 47, Civic Square 2608.

Dec 1--Dec 3: **Conjunction**
Diplomat Motor Inn, Melbourne.
Theme: The Meeting of Two Worlds.
GoH: Wendy Ratter, Michelle Muijsert.
Sup \$5, Att \$30 (Door \$40), Sup \$5.
Rooms: \$52 single, \$54 twin/doub.
PO Box 41, West Brunswick 3055.

1990

Apr 13--Apr 16: **Danse Macabre**
29th Australian SF Natcon.
Diplomat Motor Inn, Melbourne.
GoH: George R R Martin. FGoH: Eric Lindsay
Sup \$15, Att \$60.
Rooms: \$54 single, \$59 twin/doub, \$80 triple.
Box 273, Fitzroy 3065.

Apr 13--Apr 16: **Kiwicon**
Gateway Lodge, Mangere, Auckland.
GoH: Harry Harrison.
Sup \$?, Att \$40, Door \$45.
PO Box 711, Pukekohe, NEW ZEALAND.

May 11--May 13: **Conflagration '90**
Waiwera Resort Hotel, Waiwera.
GoH: I believe several are planned --
one of whom is the Wizard of Christchurch?
13 Juniper Rd, Auckland 1310, NEW ZEALAND.

Jun 1--Jun 4: **Con Verge II**
1990 NZ Natcon.
Airport Hotel, Wellington.
GoH: Richard Arnold. FGoH: James Benson.
Sup \$15, Att \$35, Door \$40 (after 1mar90).
Rooms: \$79 sgl, \$99 dbl, \$109 trp, \$119 qad.
PO Box 30905, lower Hutt, NEW ZEALAND.

Aug 23--Aug 27: **Confiction**
48th World SF Convention.
Netherlands Congress Centre, The Hague
GoHs: Joe Haldeman, Andy Porter,
Wolfgang Jeschke, Harry Harrison.
Toastmaster: Chelsea Quinn Yarbro.
Sup SA35, Att SA85.

PO Box 95370, 2509 C.I., Den Hague,
THE NETHERLANDS.
Australian Agent: Justin Ackroyd,
GPO Box 2708X, Melbourne 3001

Aug 30--Sep 3: **Con Diego**
1990 North American Natcon.
Marriott Hotel, San Diego.
GoH: S R Delaney. FGoH: Ben Yalow.
Box 15771, San Diego, CA 92115, USA.

Nov 23--nov 25: **Huttcon '90**
1990 Australian National Mediacon.
The Diplomat Motor Inn, Melbourne.
GoH: Simon Jones. FGoH: tba.
Sup \$25, Att \$45 (\$50 after 30jun89).
12 Flinders St, Matraville 2036
or PO Box 41, East Brunswick 3055.

1991

Easter 1991: **SunCon**
30th Australian SF Natcon.
GoH: Harlan Ellison.
FGoH: Leigh Edmonds/Valma Brown.
Sup \$ Att \$

Aug 29--Sep 2: **Chicon V**
49th World SF Convention.
Hyatt Regency, Chicago.
GoH: Hal Clement, Richard Powers,
Martin H Greenberg. FGoH: Jon & Joni Stopa.
Sup USS20, Att US\$75 to 31dec89.
Box 218121, Columbus, OH 43221-8121, USA.

MORE INFORMATION:

For more (or updated) info on any of the above, please write to the convention concerned. To correct, update, or add to the information listed here, please write to **Danse Macabre**.

Danse Macabre General Application Form

Remember that completed forms should be sent to Danse Macabre, PO Box 273, Fitzroy 3065, Victoria.

Memberships

Please find enclosed a cheque/money order (made out to Danse Macabre) for \$ for the following memberships:

Attending - Adult: \$60.00 per membership until 3 December 1989 (the final day of the *Conjunction* convention).

Attending - Child: \$30.00 per membership until 3 December 1989, for children 15 years or younger at 13 April 1990. A *Children's Membership* can only be issued with a supervising *Adult* membership. The supervising adult will undertake full responsibility for the child at the convention, and will accompany the child at all times during the convention.

Children less than 5 years old will be allowed free entrance to the convention, provided they are accompanied and supervised at all times by an adult member of *Danse Macabre*.

Supporting (non-attending): \$15.00 per membership. A supporting membership may be converted to an attending membership at any time on paying the difference between the two membership rates.

Voting Only. \$5 per membership.

Name(s) and address(es):

.....
.....

Accommodation

Accommodation at *Danse Macabre* has been arranged both at the **Diplomat** and at the nearby **Spaceline** hotel.

Please find enclosed a minimum of one night's deposit for:

Double / Suite [= two-room triple] room(s) (\$59/\$80 per night) at the **Spaceline** for the nights of 12/13/14/15/16* April 1990.

Single / Double / Triple room(s) (\$54/\$59/\$80 per night) at the **Diplomat** for the nights of 12/13/14/15/16* April 1990.

* Strike out the dates which are not required.

I/we intend to share our room with:

.....

Other Details

I intend to bookseats at the banquet (estimated cost is \$20 to \$25).

I intend to contribute to the art show: Yes No (Please Tick One)

Other Comments:

Suggestions for the Convention, Volunteers to Help, Additional Programming Ideas, etc.:

.....
.....