

Ninth Australian

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

MELBOURNE, EASTER 1970





WELCOME, FRIENDS, TO THE NINTH AUSTRALIAN
SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION!

WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL FIND PLENTY TO INTEREST
AND ENTERTAIN YOU, WHETHER YOUR VICE IS
BOOKS, MOVIES, COMICS, TELEVISION, AMATEUR
PUBLISHING OR JUST STANDIN' AROUND LOOKIN'
AT PEOPLE!

RELAX AND ENJOY YOURSELVES - THIS ONE'S ON US.

MERVYN R. BINNS

Organizer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks to...

JOHN FOYSTER Publicity
PAUL STEVENS Assistant Organizer/Films
DIMITRII RAZUVAEV Artwork
JOHN BREDEN Displays
JOHN BANGSUND Handbook Design and Editing
LEIGH EDMONDS PETER HOUSE . . . TONY THOMAS
NOEL KERR PETER INNOCENT

... and all who have assisted in the preparation and
staging of this, the most ambitious Science Fiction
Convention ever held in Australia.

- M.R.B.

PROGRAMME

Friday 27 March

AT THE CAPRI THEATRE - MURRUMBEENA ROAD - MURRUMBEENA

---o0o---

- 10.00 REGISTRATION - ART DISPLAY
- 12.00 LUNCH
- 2.00 WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS - ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 2.15 BUSINESS SESSION
John Bangsund presiding: Reports from
Clubs and Groups; Discussion about
"Australia in '75?"; &c &c
- 4.00 FILM SHOW: STAR TREK episode
- 6.00 DINNER
Note that dinner will not be provided on
this day

---o0o---

- 7.30 GUEST SPEAKER: Mr N.K. KROSCHER
Mr Kroscher will present an up-to-the-minute
survey of the Space Programme, illustrated
by short films
- 9.00 FILM SHOW: THIS ISLAND EARTH
(and the trailer for MAROONED)

---o0o---



Saturday 28 March

AT THE CAPRI THEATRE - MURRUMBEENA ROAD - MURRUMBEENA

---oOo---

11.00 REGISTRATION - ART DISPLAY

Note: The Melbourne SF Club will be open from 9.00am this morning

12.00 LUNCH

1.00 SCIENCE FICTION THEN AND NOW

Lee Harding presiding: A discussion on science fiction past and present, with attention to the place of sf in Literature

2.00 DISCUSSION SESSION

3.00 AUCTION

Ditmar Jensen presiding: material will include rare pulp magazines and original artwork

6.00 DINNER

---oOo---

8.00 FILM SHOW: BARBARELLA

(with short features, including a number dealing with techniques of animation, by courtesy of Mr John Moon)

THE SPACE AGE ADVENTRESS WHOSE SEX-PLOITS
ARE AMONG THE MOST BIZARRE EVER SEEN !

PRESENTED BY THE MURRUMBEENA THEATRE

JANE FONDA
SEE
BARBARELLA
DO HER THING!

DAVID HEMMINGS
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Sunday 29 March

AT THE CAPRI THEATRE - MURRUMBEENA ROAD - MURRUMBEENA

---o0o---

- 11.00 COMICS PROGRAMME
Noel Kerr presiding
- 1.00 LUNCH
- 2.00 FANS AND FANDOMS
John Foyster presiding: Short talks
and discussions on the nature and
purpose of the different aspects of
fandom: sf, comics, Tolkien, ERB,
Star Trek, fanzines, US fandom, TAFF, &c

4.00 FILM SHOW: 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY

---o0o---

- 7.00 DINNER
With Guest Speakers and
PRESENTATION OF THE "DITMAR" AWARDS
- 9.30 THE PAUL STEVENS SHOW

---o0o---



Monday 30 March

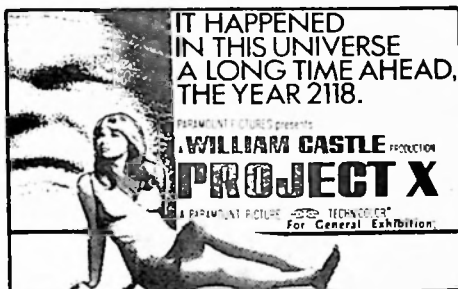
AT THE CAPRI THEATRE & MELBOURNE SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

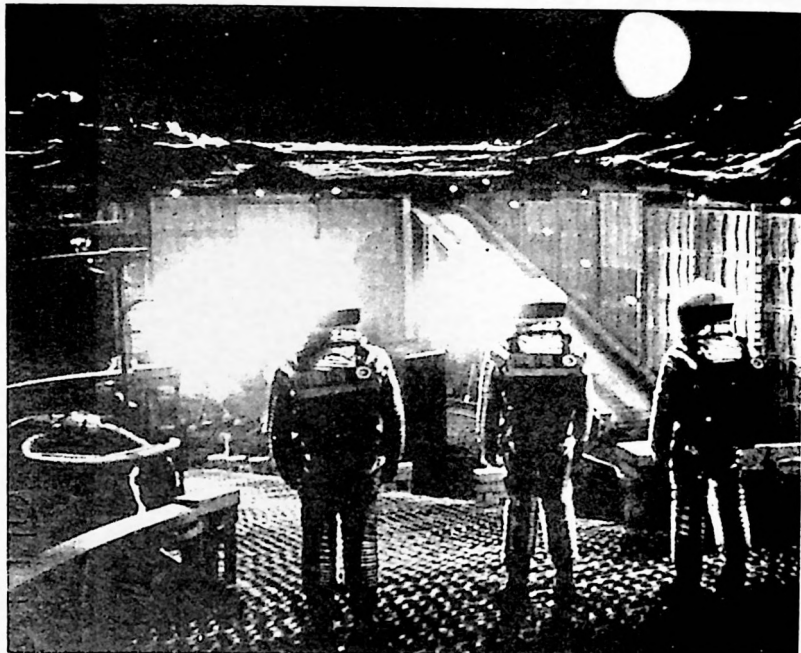
---oOo---

- 12.30 FILM SHOW: PROJECT X
- 2.00 DISCUSSION - FILM CENSORSHIP
Paul Stevens presiding
- 4.00 FILM SHOW: DANGER DIABOLIK

---oOo---

- 8.00 A Quiet Evening Will Be Held In The
Sumptuous Surroundings Of The
Melbourne Science Fiction Club -
For Those Able To Attend





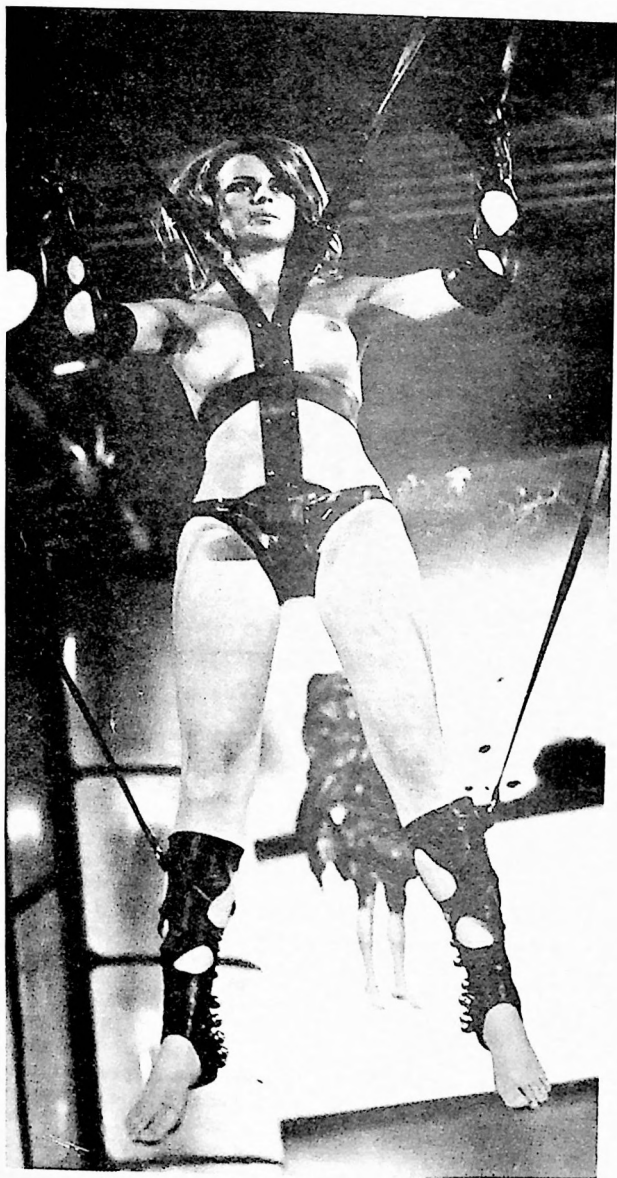
- From 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY

THE FILMS

A NOTE BY PAUL STEVENS

THE films this year have been chosen to provide as much variety as possible for convention viewers, bearing in mind that the range of sf films available is rather limited, and that the distributors will not always agree to our having the films. (This is the reason we are not screening THE TENTH VICTIM, SPACEMAN and FIRST SPACESHIP TO VENUS.)

Of the films available to us I have chosen THIS ISLAND EARTH as an example of one of the better sf films of the mid-fifties, BARBARELLA and DANGER DIABOLIK as representative of the new wave in sf and comic art emanating from Europe by way of the cinema, PROJECT X as representative of some of the poorer efforts of Hollywood over the last few years, and 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY as the one true classic of all time.



- From BARBARELLA

There were other films which I would have liked to include - films such as MOON ZERO TWO, a perfect example of the "space western", COUNTDOWN, an example of a near-miss in factual sf, MISSION MARS, possibly the worst sf movie of all time, and the recent Columbia release, HEAD. HEAD, featuring the Monkees, might not be sf, but it is one of the best surrealist films I have ever seen.

It is also hoped during the convention to screen some bits and pieces of horror films - fragments, shall we say - the bits Australian viewers have never seen. Just so you'll know what Joe Censor thinks isn't good for us.

Happy viewing, customers!



THE THEATRE

Our thanks to Maurie Isaacs for again making the Capri Theatre, Murrumbena, available to us. We think you will agree it's an excellent place for a convention.

We would like to point out that members of the Fantasy Film Group may obtain concession rates for any screening of the Capri Theatre.

CAPRI THEATRE

MURRUMBEENA ROAD, MURRUMBEENA

AUSTRALIAN CONVENTIONS

Eleven Science Fiction Conventions have been held in Australia.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1952 | FIRST AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Sydney |
| 1953 | SECOND AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Sydney |
| 1954 | THIRD AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Sydney |
| 1955 | FOURTH AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Sydney |
| 1956 | FIFTH AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION - THE "OLYMPICON"
Melbourne (Richmond) |
| 1958 | SIXTH AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Melbourne |
| 1966 | SEVENTH AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Melbourne |
| 1968 | MELBOURNE SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE
Melbourne (and Boronia) |
| 1969 | EIGHTH AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Melbourne (and Murrumbena) |
| 1970 | SYDNEY SF CONVENTION - "SYNCON '70"
Sydney (Epping) |
| 1970 | NINTH AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION
Melbourne (Murrumbena) |

During the Business Session at this Convention you are invited to join in the discussion of the following two important matters -

Location of the TENTH AUSTRALIAN SF CONVENTION (a bid having been entered for Boronia, Victoria at the New Year 1971, and another bid from Sydney being possible)

The desirability of Australia bidding for the 1975 WORLD CONVENTION.



THE DITMAR AWARD

The Australian Science Fiction Achievement Awards, or "Ditmars", were instituted at the 8th Australian SF Convention in Melbourne, 1969, through the generosity of a prominent Melbourne fan who has little hope of remaining anonymous.

Last year a system of nominations and final ballot, similar to the Hugo system, was used. This year the organizer, Bruce Gillespie, decided to try taking straight-out votes with no previous nominating. If you read this by the evening of 27th March you may still vote. See Bruce. But you must be a Convention Member.

The first Ditmars were awarded as follows:

BEST AUSTRALIAN FICTION: Bert Chandler - "False Fatherland"
BEST INTERNATIONAL FICTION: Tom Disch - "Camp Concentration"
BEST CONTEMPORARY AUTHOR: Brian Aldiss
BEST AUSTRALIAN FANZINE: John Bangsund - "Australian SF Review"

For your convenience we make the following space available for you to record the winners for 1970:

BEST AUSTRALIAN FICTION:
.....

BEST INTERNATIONAL FICTION:
.....

BEST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE:
.....

BEST AUSTRALIAN FANZINE:
.....

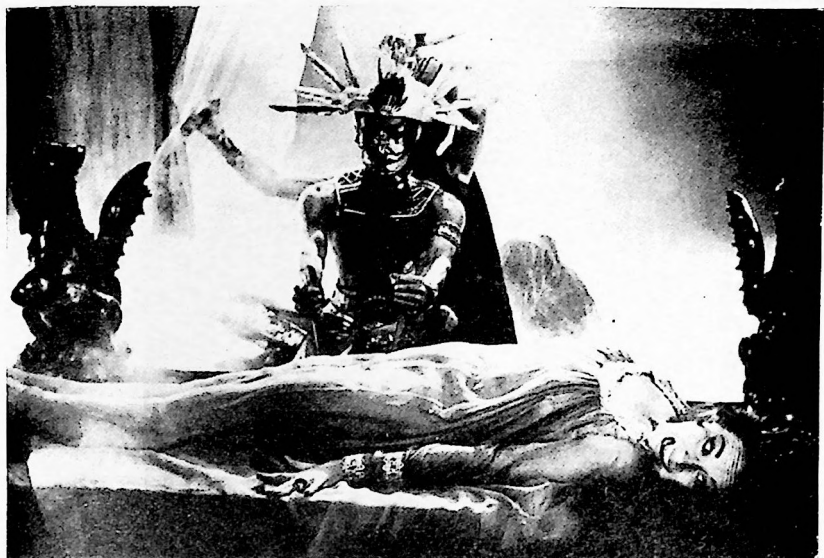
Brian Aldiss

- 1962: HUGO AWARD - THE "HOTHOUSE" STORIES
1966: NEBULA AWARD - "THE SALIVA TREE"
1969: DITMAR AWARD - BEST CONTEMPORARY SF WRITER
1970: THE ULTIMATE ACCOLADE.....



BANNED IN AUSTRALIA!

Yes, folks - that mild-looking family man up there wants to corrupt clean-living pure-thinking Australians. The book which has made his name a household word in the Customs Department is THE HAND-REARED BOY. Now, Brian, about that illicit printing-press up in Alice Springs which you were talking to us about at the '66 Convention. What if we.....?

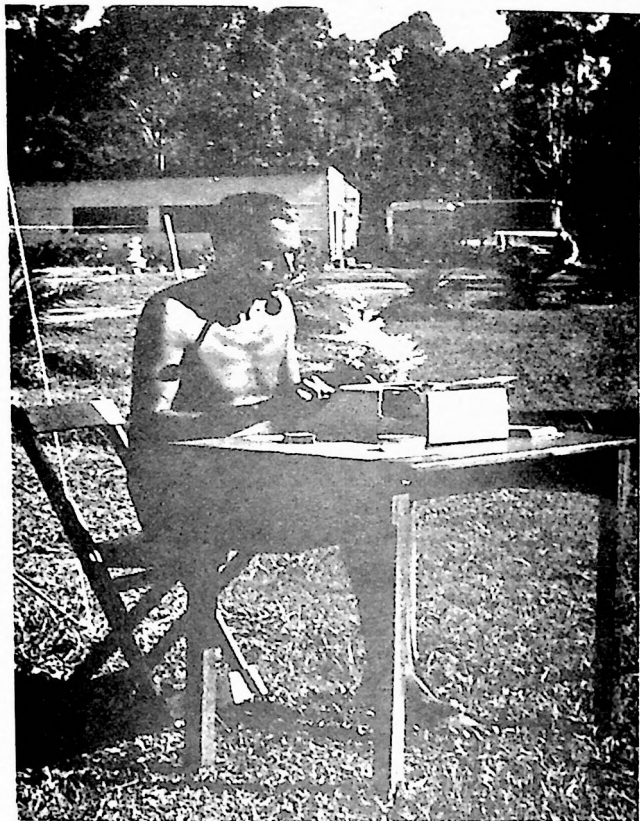


"HORROR FILMS ARE NEITHER ENTERTAINING NOR
CULTURAL. THEY CATER ONLY FOR A SMALL
MINORITY OF THE MORONIC TYPE."

* John Alexander, Australian Chief Censor, 1948

Above: The sacrifice scene from Roger Corman's MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH. Described by John Baxter as one of the most beautiful cinematic sequences he had ever seen, it was cut completely from the version screened in Australia.

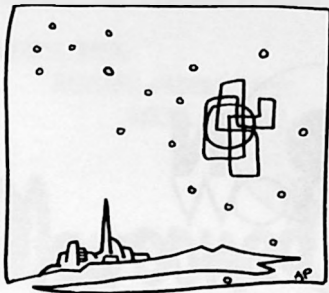
(Still from Horizons du Fantastique no.8)



Portrait of a science fiction author at work:
Australia's most successful exponent of the genre,
A. BERTRAM CHANDLER, on holiday at Woodlands.

And now you know where they get those crazy ideas
from!

- Picture by Alan King, swiped from SOLAR.
(No, Virginia, that is not a science fiction
magazine.)



Greetings from the

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Fantasy and
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Drawing by
Andrew Porter

ANZAPA

THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION

wishes you a joyful Convention
and invites applications for
membership

ANZAPA, founded in 1968 by Leigh Edmonds, consists of a maximum of twenty-five people in Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere who are interested in amateur publishing.

Mailings are posted bi-monthly - the next is due in April - and they consist of individual fanzines sent in bulk by each member to the Official Editor.

Vacancies are limited. Contact Gary Mason for details.

VISION OF TOMORROW

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hopes you enjoy the STAR TREK episode
and

urges you to do what you can to BRING BACK STAR TREK!

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB, CONTACT

JOHN STEPOWSKI 20a MOORHOUSE STREET CAMBERWELL 3124





Quotations from Chairman Mervyn

"If you want to hold a convention next year, someone else can run it, not me."

M.R. BINNS, EASTER 1968



"This is the last convention I will have anything to do with."

M.R. BINNS, EASTER 1969

"I don't know how I always manage to get landed with these things. I'm telling you, never again!"

M.R. BINNS, EASTER 1970



"This is definitely the last SF convention I will have anything to do with."

M.R. BINNS,
WORLD CONVENTION,
AUSTRALIA, 1975



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Stop him and buy several at the Convention. You'll be so glad you diddled. Did, that is. (Damn this typewriter.)



"THE WORLD IS A STAGE, AND LIFE IS A FARCE,
AND HE THAT LAUGHS MOST HAS MOST PROFIT OF
THE PERFORMANCE.

THE WORST THING IS GOOD ENOUGH TO BE
LAUGHED AT, THOUGH IT BE GOOD FOR NOTHING
ELSE; AND THE BEST THING, THOUGH IT BE
GOOD FOR SOMETHING ELSE, IS GOOD FOR
NOTHING BETTER."

--- Thomas Love Peacock

So you have no excuse for not getting
something out of this Convention!

--- John Bangsund



Melbourne SCIENCE FICTION Club

THE CLUB

The Melbourne Science Fiction Club hopes you will enjoy the EASTERCON - Melbourne's fifth SF Convention, Australia's ninth National Convention.

The Club, established in 1952, offers a number of services and privileges, and you are invited to take advantage of them.

The Club meets on Wednesday evenings at 19 SOMERSET PLACE (off Little Bourke Street, behind McGill's Newsagency).

Other informal meetings are usually held also on Saturday mornings. Full membership of the Club costs \$2.00 per year, Associate membership (open to anyone in the world) \$1.00. Members attending Wednesday meetings also make a small donation towards rent and maintenance.

Secretary is MERVYN BINNS. Have a word in his ear, if he stands still long enough, during the Convention.





THE LIBRARY

One of the many advantages of belonging to the Melbourne SF Club is the Library Service.

New books are being added to the Library weekly, and all are available to members.

New and secondhand books are offered for sale, too - see our stand at the Convention for a sample range. Any book not in stock will be obtained to your order.

THE JOURNAL

The Club's journal, THE SOMERSET GAZETTE, recently saw its first issue, very capably produced by Noel Kerr, with contributions from a number of leading Australian fans.

The purpose of the Gazette is to keep club members informed of news of Australian and overseas SF activities and publications. It is free to members, and remember, you can be a member for as little as \$1.00 per year.

News and other contributions, written or drawn, are welcomed by the Gazette. Send them to Noel Kerr, MSFC, 19 Somerset Place, Melbourne 3000.

THE FILM GROUP

Associated with the Club is the MELBOURNE FANTASY FILM GROUP, organized by Paul Stevens.

The Film Group arranges regular 35mm screenings at the Capri Theatre, Murrumbeena, and other screenings at the Clubroom. Concession tickets to city programmes are offered by the Group from time to time.

For information, or to join the Film Group, contact Paul Stevens at the MSFC address, or see him at the Convention.

---oOo---

* No, Mervyn has not resigned.
Not yet.

The New Forerunner

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AND COMICS FANS

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Drawings by Michael Gilbert



Greetings to the EasterCon from

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Science Fiction
Foundation

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HURRY UP CHAPS
....."2001" IS
JUST ABOUT
TO START!



THERE IS
A
GOD...
PAUL
STEVENS!



REJOICE WORLD!!

THIS IS IT!!

THE FOOLS! SO
THE LAST FIASCO
WASN'T ENOUGH FOR
THEM! A 9th AUSTRALIAN
S.F. CONVENTION... HA!
THIS I'VE
GOT TO SEE!

have
fun

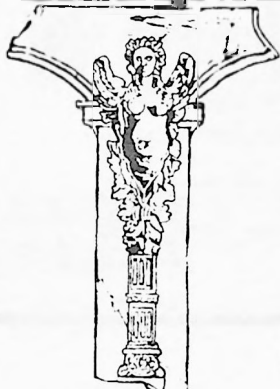
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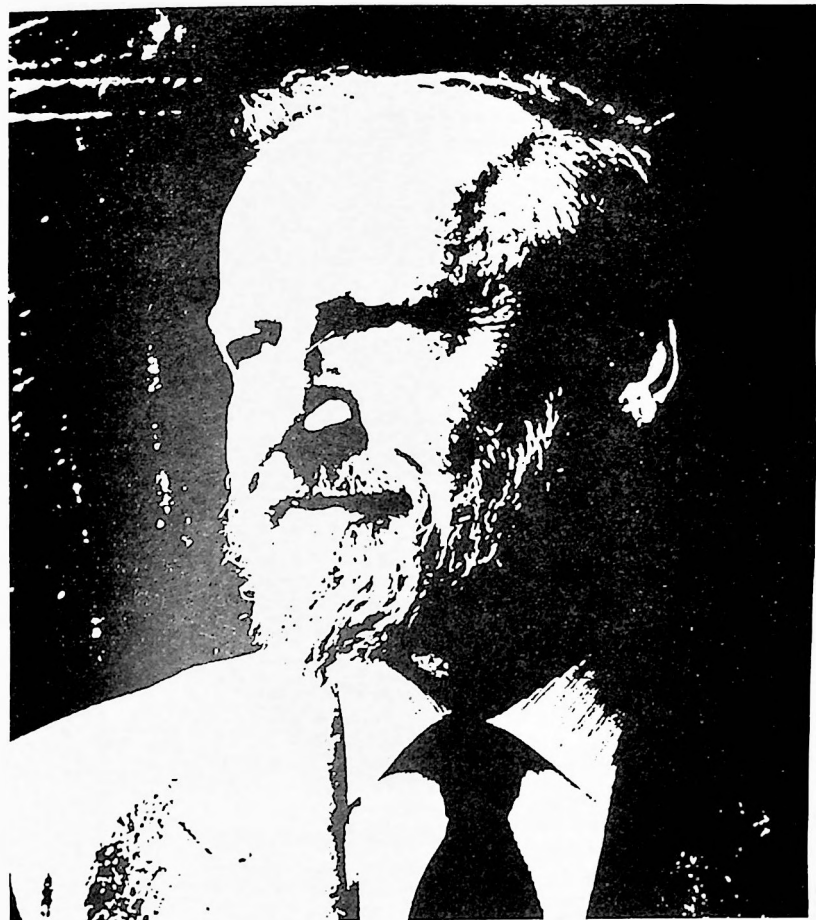
JONATHAN CAPE



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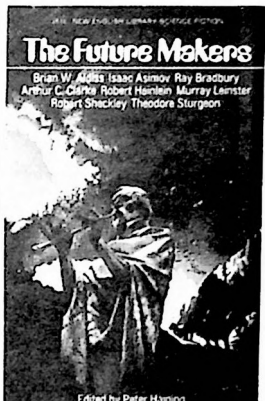
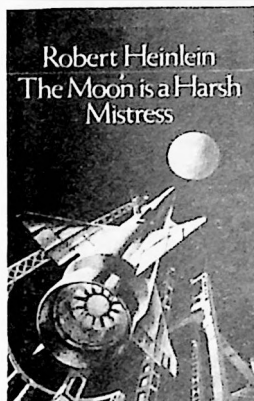
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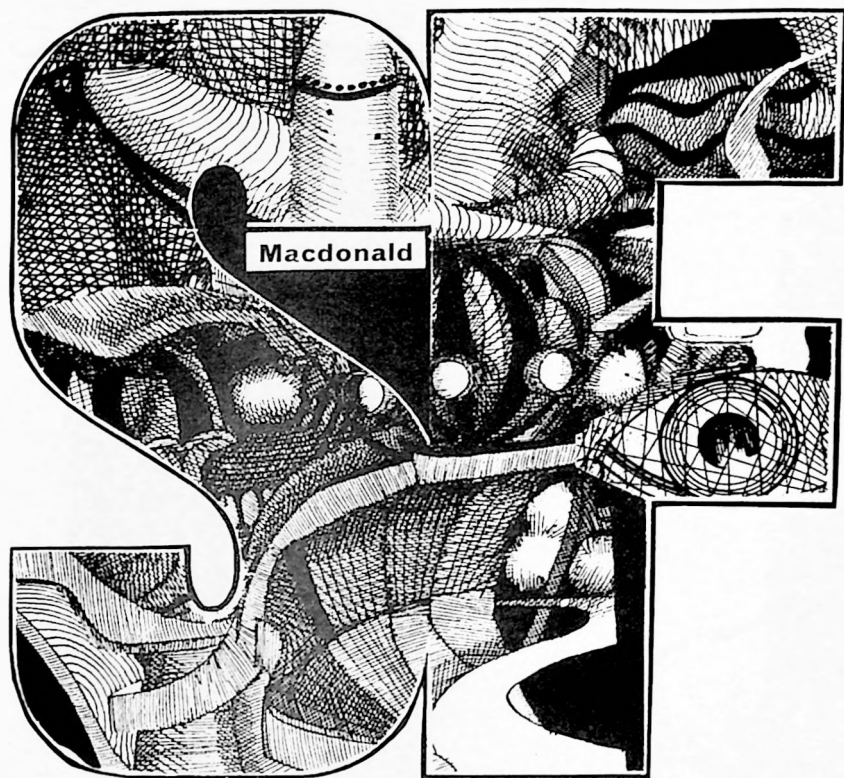
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A BUNCH OF HAPPY FANNISH
FACES, PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE
LAST AUSTRALIAN CONVENTION

And the three people who
correctly identify the most
of these portraits will
receive a giftie from
good ol' Mervyn Binns.



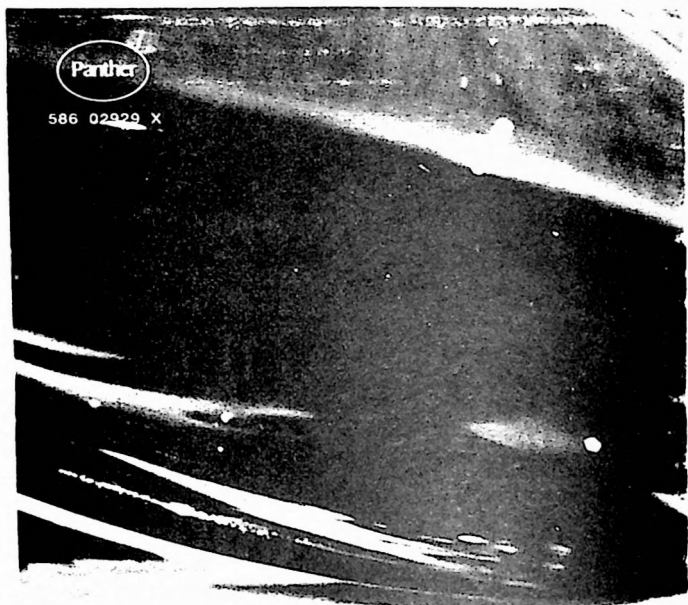


Ursula K. LeGuin
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OF DARKNESS

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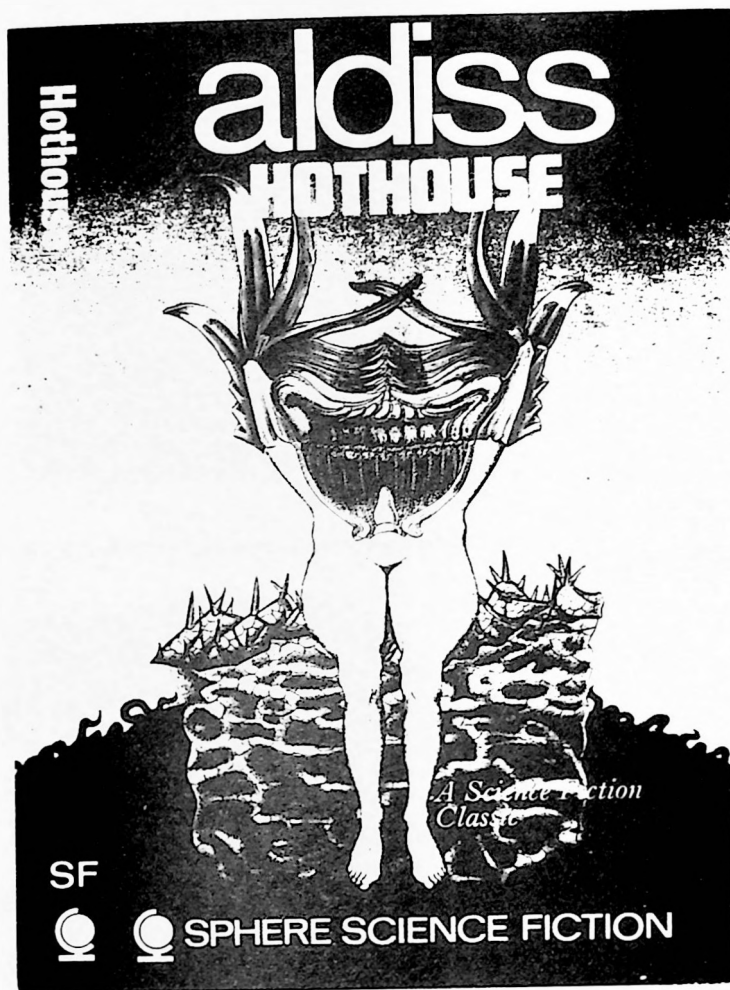
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PAUL STEVENS

(Count Dracula) and

PETER HOUSE

(The Mummy)

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FRIGHTFULLY GOOD TIME
AT THE CONVENTION

and advise that their
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OF THE FLAMIN' PUBS

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LEE HARDING

WISHES
YOU
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WITH A SALUTE TO
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FOR THEIR
ACHIEVEMENT OF
ONE OF SCIENCE
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And our thanks
to NASA
for the short films
and to
Mr Kroschel of the
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Supply for
his assistance in
our programme



