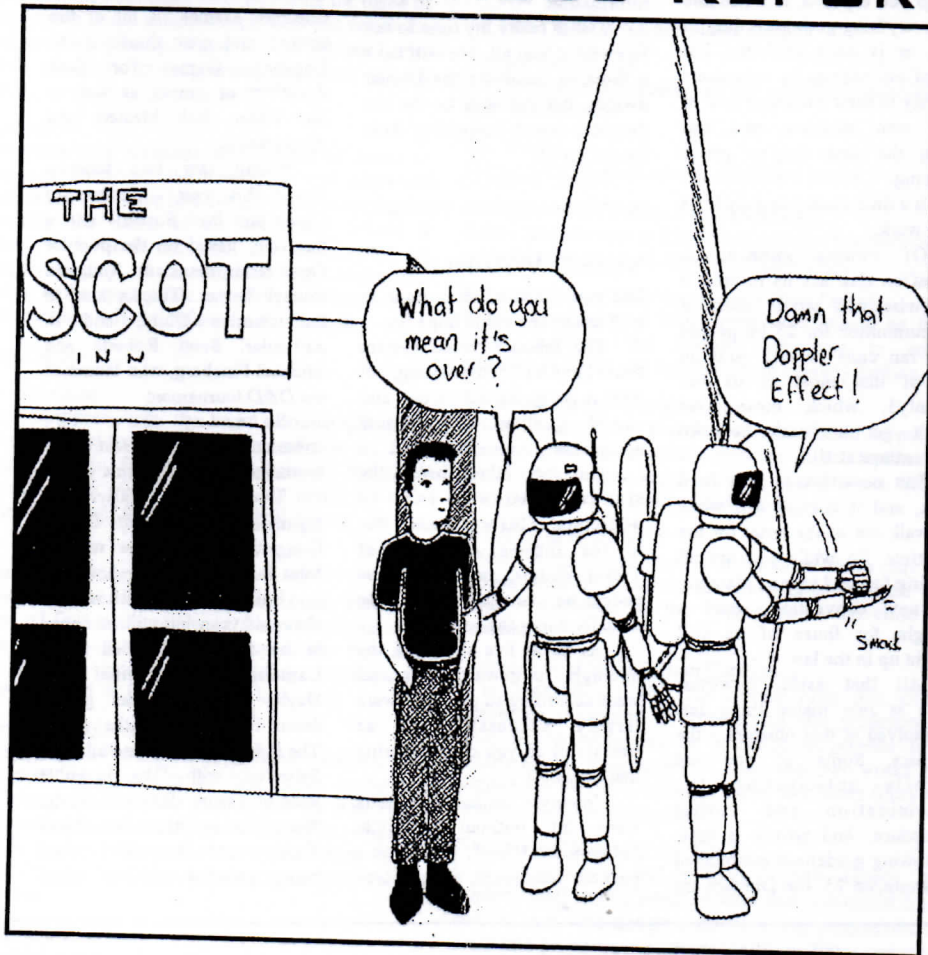


# SWANCON 2000

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL SF CONVENTION  
NATIONAL LITERARY AND MEDIA SF CONVENTION

## FINAL PROGRESS REPORT



## CONVENOR'S RANT

And so, it ended. You packed up your toothbrush, your con bag, your pyjamas, all the books you bought, and of course, your memories, and you went home.

The Convention happened, and it happened well. At least I think so, and I hope you did too. Sure there were a few things that didn't go quite according to plan, but I'd like to think that in the scheme of things, those aren't the things you remember, but rather you remember the things you enjoyed. It's a shame not everything goes according to plan, or is done perfectly, but SwanCons are run by volunteers entirely in their own time and of their own initiative, and that being the case they're pretty amazing.

It's time consuming, and it's hard work.

Of course running a SwanCon also has its rewards - otherwise why would most of the committee for 25 be people who ran cons before? And on top of that most of us ran Twenty3, which means we didn't get a break between conventions at all...

But nevertheless it is hard work, and it doesn't end when we walk out of the hotel for the last time. So while you are all looking forward to, and planning the next convention, spare a thought for those of us still caught up in the last. ^\_-

All that aside, however, there is one major thing left unresolved at this juncture - the Ditmars. Some of you are eagerly anticipating the renomination and voting procedure. And now it is here. Following guidelines established at SwanCon 25, the Ditmars are

going ahead. Within these pages you can find a Ditmar nomination form. You can nominate online - we're not entirely heartless, and the internet is a wonderful tool, but unfortunately we will not be allowing online voting, and no method of nomination will be anonymous. However, all members (in their various guises) of the convention will be eligible to vote, and in fact will be the ONLY people eligible to vote. You didn't buy or be given a membership? You can't vote.

But enough of that. Look in the relevant section for Ditmar information.

This is really my time to say farewell to you all. We will have a function involving the Ditmar awards, but this shall be the last progress report emanating from SwanCon 25.

Enjoy SwanCon 26, and good luck to the team running it.

## VIDEO WRAPUP

The two video streams went as well as anyone could hope for.

The inhouse video system could have had better wiring, but once it got going the picture and sound quality was almost acceptable.

On the other hand the standard stream ran to perfection. This was mainly due to the tireless assistance of Trevor Philips, and the various people he managed to rope into actually doing the screening.

As far as I've been told, the midnight to dawn sessions all went according to plan and were largely successful (or as successful as you can be during that timeslot)

Jeremy's animé screening went off without a hitch. "Mononoke Hime", played to a packed video room, and received

a round of applause at the end. The following items of adult animé titles weren't as enticing, but were reasonably well attended. The first few foreign films were well attended.

John is the only one who is proud of the fact that he failed to stay conscious during his well attended Peter Jackson set.

The last minute addition of *Farscape* appeared to be a good decision. Hope the people who cared about the video stream enjoyed it.

## GAMING WRAPUP

Thursday saw the launch of Cheapass Games. A lot of fun ensued, and great thanks go to Cheapass Games for their donations of games, as well as Ian Visser, Rob Masters and Alicia Smith.

Friday saw two tourney games this year - *Settlers of Catan* and *Rail Baron* - and a freeform, based on the popular *Dune* series, thanks to Ruth and Rachel Turner. Thanks also to the Gamers Guild, and in particular, Scott Roberts and Michael Fineberg, who launched the *D&D* tournament

Saturday saw the commencement of the rest of the tournament games for this year.

Thanks go to Lee Taylor for organising *Settlers of Catan*. Congratulations to the winner, John Samuels

*Rail Baron* ran with a fresh slate this year, but still managed to be a draw between Luigi Cantoni, Jason Fennel and Dayne Bilick. Thanks go to Jason for providing the game. The *D&D* tourney, concluded on Saturday, with 'The Invisible Ring of Terror' (Benjamin King, Shane Hames, Brian Choo, Mark Turnley and Danielle Linder.) being awarded the best team,

## Notes regarding the 2000 Australian Science Fiction Achievement ("Ditmar") Awards

This is the second nomination form for the 2000 Ditmar Awards. The original nominations, published earlier this year, have been officially declared null and void. If you nominated any works for the Ditmar Awards earlier this year, you must re-nominate those works in order for them to be considered.

Following the original, aborted Ditmar Awards for 2000, a new set of rules for the awards were agreed upon by the Australian National Science Fiction Convention during Swancon 2000. While these new rules do not actually come into effect until the 2001 Ditmars, the awards subcommittee of Swancon 2000 have elected to follow them in the interim.

It should be noted, however, that Ditmar 2000 will not be accepting nominations for four of the new categories this year, on the recommendation of the National Convention. The categories not accepted are (1) Special Award for works not eligible in existing categories, (2) Best Professional Achievement, (3) Best Fan Achievement and (4) Best New Talent.

In line with Rule 3.0 of the new rules, the Ditmar 2000 subcommittee shall consist of Grant Watson and Simon Oxwell - all other committee members of the Swancon 2000 convention are thus eligible for nomination in any relevant category.

The complete new rules are reprinted below, and contain explanations and clarifications for all categories and other conditions.

Grant Watson  
Ditmar 2000 Subcommittee.

## Rules for the Australian Science Fiction Achievement ("Ditmar") Awards

### 1.0 Preamble

The Australian Science Fiction Achievement ("Ditmar") Awards recognise excellence in Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror by Australians.

### 2.0 Categories

#### *Professional Categories*

Best Novel  
Best Novella or Novelette  
Best Short Story  
Best Collected Work  
Best Artwork

#### *Fan Categories*

Best Fan Writer  
Best Fan Artist  
Best Fan Production

#### *Special Award for works not eligible in existing categories*

Best Professional Achievement  
Best Fan Achievement

William Atheling Jr Award for Criticism or Review  
Best New Talent

## 3.0 Eligibility Criteria

### *Timeliness*

Works are eligible if they were first published or released anywhere in the world in an edition dated in the calendar year immediately preceding the year the award is held.

### *Australianness*

Nominees are eligible if they were Australian citizens or permanent residents during the year their nominated work was released.

### *Eligibility of committee members*

Members of the current Convention Committee will be ineligible for any award, unless the committee appoints a wholly autonomous subcommittee to administer the awards, in which case only the subcommittee will be ineligible.

### *Novel*

A Novel is any work of *sf/f/h* of more than 40,000 words.

### *Novella or Novelette*

A Novella or Novelette is any work of *sf/f/h* of 7,500 to 40,000 words.

### *Short Story*

A Short Story is any work of *sf/f/h* less than 7,500 words.

### *Collected Work*

A collected work is a *sf/f/h* collection or anthology, magazine or journal, ezine or webzine which must pay contributors in other than contributor copies and incidentals, or is sponsored by an institution other than a fan club, or whose editors declare themselves to be professional. At least one edition of a collected work must have been issued in the eligible calendar year.

### *Best Artwork*

An artwork is a single work or series of related works of art in any medium other than text.

### *Fan Writer and Fan Artist*

These awards are made to writers or artists for a work or body of work first published, released, or made available for public viewing in the eligible calendar year. The writer or artist must have received no payment other than contributor copies and other incidentals (coffee mug, t-shirt, poster, etc.).

### *Fan Production*

This award is for work in any medium first published, released, or made available for public viewing in the eligible calendar year. The writer or artist must have received no payment. Eligible works include: art, video, film, periodical, journal, ezine, webzine, computer application, or website.

### *Special Awards*

Special awards recognise outstanding achievements in science fiction, fantasy, or horror not eligible in the existing categories.

# DITMAR 2000

THE AUSTRALIAN  
SCIENCE FICTION  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARDS  
NOMINATION FORM

**Best Novel**

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**Best Novella or Novelette**

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**Best Short Story**

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**Best Collected Work**

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**Best Artwork**

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**Best Fan Writer**

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**Best Fan Artist**

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**Best Fan Production**

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**William Atheling Jr. Award for Criticism or Review**

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*Please write in your name, address and e-mail (if you have it). This information will only be used to ensure no one nominates twice and to identify eligibility as per the Rules. If you believe you may not be known to Fandom at large, please provide the name of a Referee in the space provided. (As per Section 4 of the Rules)*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Referee** \_\_\_\_\_

*All nominations must be post-dated on or prior to **October 20<sup>th</sup> 2000** and should be sent to Ditmar 2000, GPO Box G429, Perth, WA, 6841. A list of the majority of eligible works can be found at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~sfoz/austsf99.htm>*

#### *The William Atheling Jr Award*

The William Atheling Jr Award is for the writing or editing of criticism or review pertaining to the genres of science fiction, fantasy, and horror.

#### *Best New Talent*

The Best New Talent award recognises excellence of professional achievement in any field of the genre by an individual who has not been nominated for a professional award three or more years before the year the award is held. An individual is only eligible for two consecutive years.

#### **4.0 Nomination Process**

##### *Eligible nominators and voters*

Nominations will be accepted only from natural persons active in fandom, or from full or supporting members of the national convention of the year of the award. Where a nominator may not be known to the Awards subcommittee, the nominator should provide the name of someone known to the subcommittee who can vouch for the nominator's eligibility. Votes will be accepted only from full members or supporting members of the convention.

##### *Nominations*

The nominator may nominate any number of works in any category. However, the nominator may nominate any given work only once in a category. All nominations must include the name of the nominator. Where a nominated work does not meet the criteria for its nominated category, the committee may move the nomination to the appropriate category; or where a work does not meet any criteria, refuse the nomination.

#### **5.0 Final Ballot**

##### *Number of finalists*

The five nominees with the most nominations shall appear on the final ballot. In the event of a tie for fifth place, up to seven finalists may appear on the final ballot. In the event of a four-way tie (or more) for fifth place, only the top four finalists shall appear on the ballot.

##### *Minimum nominations for finalists*

To appear on the ballot, a finalist must attract a minimum of four nominations in the professional and Best New Talent categories, or two in the Fan and Special Awards categories (including Professional Special Award and William Atheling Jr Award).

##### *Minimum finalists for categories*

If any category has two or fewer eligible finalists, the category shall not appear on the final ballot, excepting the Fan Awards, the Special Awards and the Best New Talent Award. At the committee's discretion, eligible finalists in the Novella or Novelette and Short Story categories may be merged into a single category called Short Fiction.

##### *Order of finalists*

Finalists shall appear in randomised order.

#### *No Award*

"No Award" shall appear last on the ballot for all categories.

#### **6.0 Voting**

##### *Preferential Voting*

Voting in each category shall take place according to a preferential system.

##### *Tied Winners*

In the event of a tie for winner in any category, all tied works will be deemed to have won the award.

##### *Anonymous Voting*

Unlike the nominations, final votes shall be anonymous. However, all ballots shall be coded and sent to each eligible member. The committee member responsible for coding the ballots shall not be involved in counting the votes.

#### **7.0 The Physical Nature of the Trophy**

##### *Finalist Certificates*

All finalists shall receive an A4 certificate honouring their achievement.

##### *The Trophy*

Ditmar winners shall receive a standard trophy.

#### **8.0 Appendix: Possible Future Changes**

Future amendments to this document were foreshadowed at the Natcon Business Meeting of 26/4/2000.

##### *Formalisation of Nomination and Voting Periods*

It was foreshadowed that formal rules should be laid down directing the Ditmar committee to issue nomination forms and final ballots in a timely fashion.

##### *Withdrawal from Consideration*

It was foreshadowed that formal rules should be put in place to direct the Ditmar committee in its response to requests by authors, artists, editors, or publishers, that a work be withdrawn from consideration.

##### *List of Eligible Works*

It was foreshadowed that the nomination forms may be accompanied by a list of eligible works and that the list may be published on the Web prior to the close of nominations.

##### *Contraction of Short Fiction Categories*

It is foreshadowed that the current rules that allow committee discretion in contracting the professional short fiction categories be amended to provide firm criteria for the merging (eg. if fewer than two works are eligible for the final ballot in either the Short Story or Novella/Novelette categories).

##### *The Physical Nature of the Trophy*

It is foreshadowed that in future Ditmar awards, the trophies shall be of a physical form that is constant from year to year. The design shall be in the proportions of 1:4:9 (the proportions of the monolith in 2001) and shall include a motif of the Southern Cross. One possibility is to use the popular Lewis Morley design.

and Helen Creagh taking out the best roleplayer title.

Sunday saw non-traditional gaming fun. Live *Roborally* was conducted outside on the grass, with a number of players, and spectators. This was huge fun, and thanks must go to Ian Visser and Colin Sharpe for helping set it all up.

The gaming with a slight bent continued with the 'Thumbmania' freeform, run by Aaron Jacks. So much fun was had by all attending this event, that the noise could be heard all the way down the hall. Oops!

Monday saw no official gaming take place, but a variety of games took place. The wonderful River room allowed for lots of impromptu gaming sessions to occur. Gaming seemed to flourish throughout the convention.

A huge thank you must go to Valhalla Games and Hobbies for their kind donations of all prizes this year.

We hope that you all enjoyed the gaming stream this year, and that new participants enjoyed themselves. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who helped in any way with the gaming stream this year, and we apologise if we've missed anyone.

## PROGRAMMERS REPORT

For something that had it's first draft written 9 months before, the programming was still changing on the day as things such as AV gear was hurriedly needed in different locations, and panels that were expected to be smaller were bigger. Overall it did seem to run smoothly & I did get a lot of positive feedback and only a little negative

feedback. I enjoyed the few panels I was able to attend. I'd like to thank everyone who ran around helping, especially the Harper Collins people.

## ...AND THE WINNERS WERE:

The 2000 Western Australian Science Fiction Achievement Awards (Tin Ducks) winners were: Stephen Dedman's 'The Lady of Situations' won *Best Written Work (Professional)*;

Cathy Cupitt's writings in 'The Rhizome Factor' won *Best Written Work (Unpaid Or Fan)*;

Jeremy G Byrne for 'Eidolon: The Journal of Australian Science Fiction and Fantasy' won *Best Professional Production In Any Medium*;

Cathy Cupitt for 'The Rhizome Factor' won *Best Non-Professional Production In Any Medium*; and

Shaun Tan's cover to 'The Coode St. Review of Science Fiction #1' won *Best Artist*.

A special award, the Silver Swan, was presented to 'Eidolon' for services to Western Australian science fiction

The Mumfan Award went to John Samuel.

The Short Story Competition was won by Kristain Lie for *Into the Cold*, with a runner up *100% Millenium Hype* won by Cat Sparks.

The D&D Tournament was won by 'The Invisible Ring of Terror' (Benjamin King, Shane Hames, Brian Choo, Mark Turnley and Danielle Linder.)

With best Roleplayer being won by Helen Creagh.

The Rail Baron Contest was a three way draw between Luigi Cantoni, Jason Fennel and Dayne Bilick.

## GUEST LIST

### Full Members

Aaron Jacks  
Adam McCaw  
Adam Wright  
Alan Robson  
Alastair Irvine  
Alicia Smith  
Alyson Roberts  
Andrew Bailey  
Andrew Finch  
Andrew Poli  
Andrew Sinclair  
Andrew Williams  
Angela O'Brien-Malone  
Ann Griffiths  
Ann Scriven  
Anthony Briggs  
Anthony White  
Art Diggle  
Barbara Robson  
Barnaby Brown  
Bill Congreve  
Bill Langley  
Bill Wright  
BJ Van Den Berg  
Brendan Grey  
Brett Griggs  
Brian Choo  
Brian Clarke  
Brian Trump  
Bronya Ellis  
Cameron McFarland  
Carol Ryles  
Caspian Maclean  
Cat Sparks  
Cath McDonnell  
Catherine De Croy  
Cathy Rye  
Cecily Scutt  
Charles Newby  
Che Cotton  
Cherry Weiner  
Chris Clarke  
Chris Creagh  
Chris Lawson  
Christopher Hall  
Clare Coney  
Clare McKenna  
Claudine Daneill  
Coreynn  
Craig Macbride  
Craig Stephenson  
Dale Verdi  
Damien Kneale  
Damien Magee  
Daniel Heald  
Danielle Linder  
Danny Heap  
Darren Longbottom  
Darren Ryding

Daryl Colgan	Julia Gosling	Russell B Farr	Craig Greenbank
Dave Cake	Julian Ackermann	Russell Blackford	Damien Chua
David Basden	Julian Goodram	Ruth Turner	David Bent
David Chandler	Justin Ackroyd	Sally Beasley	Demelza Moore
David Medlan	Justin Semmel	Sally Cowper	Fern Clarke
David Webb	Kar Lee Yeap	Sam Bailey	Graham Penny
David Yeates	Karen Hall	Sandra Norman	Guy Dyson
Deborah Biancotti	Karen McKenna	Sarah Locksley	Ian Bacon
Diana Hill	Karen Miller	Sarah Parker	James Gardner
Don Griffiths	Karen Stannard	Scott Snow	James Patton
Donna Heenan	Kathleen Ager	Sean McMullen	Jay Stratton
Dorothy Cantoni	Ken McCaw	Shane Hames	Joanne Tatarynowicz
Doug Clutterbuck	Kevin Cross	Sharon Wood	Julie Banfield
Douglas Linder	Kevin McCaw	Shasta Calvo	Kaia Sangu
DreamStone	KR Whiting	Shay Telfer	Karyl Naim
Elaine Kemp	Kris Parker	Shelley McCaw	Kelly Baxail
Elaine Walker	Kristian A Lie	Shelley Templar	Kerryn Atkinson
Eleanor Ager	Lee Taylor	Sophie Ambrose	Laurton McGurk
Elizabeth Grzyb	Leighton Haynes	Sorsha Roberts	Leslie Komlos
Elizabeth Trump	Lily Chrywenstrom	Stephanie Hawkes	Lisa Orsini
Emma Hawkes	Lisa Rye	Stephen Griffiths	Liz Aitkens
Eric Lindsay	Luigi Cantoni	Steve Gunnell	Liz Bowyer
Evan Beasley	Lynette Triffitt	Steve Powell	Margaret McDonnell
Fe Waters	Marcia Bauer	Steve Warren	Margaret Watts
Francis Briggs	Mark Bivens	Sue Ackermann	Marie Wynter
Garry Hoff	Mark Clews	Sue Ann Barber	Mark Tearle
Geoff Rogers	Mark McMullan	Sue Isle	Mark Turnley
Georgina Blair	Matthew Chrulew	Suzie Poli	Mark Weston
Ghoti	Mea Locksley	Sven Lie	Matt Rawlinson
Gina Goddard	Mel Kosick	Sylvia Kelso	Matt Rawlinson
Graham Donald	Michael Atkinson	Tamara Philips	Maxine Komlos
Grahame Bowland	Michael Dawson	Tania Humphrys	Melanie Chen
Heather Magee	Michael Deegan	Tansy Rayner Roberts	Mike Kent
Heidi Kneale	Michael Tredwell	Taryn East	P D Evans
Helen Creagh	Michael Watts	Terri Sellen	Patrick McGeough
Helen Merrick	Mike Cumpston	Terry Chilvers	Peter McMahon
Hollie Roberts	Mitch Christov	Terry Frost	Peter Raven
Ian Irvine	Neil Herzog	Terry Frost	Richard Sather
Ian McKellar	Neil Murray	Terry van Heygen	Rob Watson
Ian Visser	Nick Evans	Thomas Bull	Ryan McConigley
Isaac Williams	Nikki Daniels	Thomas Edge	S Nicholson
Jack R Herman	Owen Godfrey	Tiki Swain	Sean A Reith
Jade Todd	Owen Wylde	Todd Rowlands	Sean van Osselaer
James C King	Paul Andinach	Tom Home	Shashana Dyson
James Gwinnett	Paul Chamberlain	Trevor Clark	Shirley Acton
Jason Funnell	Peter Craig	Trevor Phillips	Simon Chandler
Jason Watson	Peter Hill	Troy Daniels	Steve Fellows
Jean Weber	Peter Kelly	Vincient Smith	Steve McGlone
Jeff Watkins	Peter Lyons	Wade Ellis	Sue Fordham
Jenny Blackford	Peter Nicholls	Wayne Bilick	Susan Margaret
Jenny Kelly	Peter Wilkie	Wendy Hale	Thomas Fitzgerald
Jenny Mathews	Phillip McLean	Wendy Sheedy	Tim Nelson
Jeremy Clarke	Rachel Turner	Zara Baxter	Tom Acton
Jeremy G Byrne	Richard Scriven		Tom Gedeon
Jeremy Nelson	Rick Jakins	<b>Day Members</b>	Warren Hughes
Jeremy Phillips	Rob Masters	Alex Edwards	
Jocelyn Kuan	Robert Hood	Alistair McKie	<b>Supporting Members</b>
Jody Williams	Robin Clarke	Anne M Masters	Anne Devrell
Joel Shepherd	Robyn Creagh	Benedict King	Cheryl Morgan
John August	Roger Allen	Caroline Booth	Kevin Standlee
John Samuel	Rohan Wallace	Charles Clark	Marc Ortlieb
Jonathon Strahan	Ron Serdiuk	Chris Nelson	Marianne Jablon
Joyce Chng	Rose Mitchell	Chris Stronach	