

Anzapa..!



MAILING 319 - FEBRUARY 2021

ANZAPA

Contents of Mailing 319:

	Title	Contributor	Pgs(Cred)
1	OBO 319	Acting OBE	10 (0)
2	Ballot for the position of OBE	Acting OBE	2 (0)
3	The Everyday Book 6	Derrick Ashby	12
4	Quoz 75	Claire Brialey & Mark Plummer	54
5-8	And So It Goes #10 to #13	Garry P. Dalrymple	88 (87)
9	Centum Greges CVIII	Leigh Edmonds	22 (21)
10	Rhubarb 88	John & Diane Fox	44
11	*brg* 114	Bruce Gillespie	16
12	Snippets 9	Michael F. Green	28
13	The Fretful Porpentine 36	David Grigg	18
14	Necessity 158	Jack R. Herman	20
15	Gaston J. Feeblehare #17	Kim Huett	20
16	Sketchy 5	Christina Lake	12
17	Kingdom of the Bland	Eric Lindsay	16
18	From the Lair of the Lynx #115	LynC	18 (17)
19	Crash of the Hard Disk 52	Gary Mason	32
20	Land of 10,000 Loons	Jeanne Mealy	2
21	Perryscope 6	Perry Middlemiss	16
22	Perryscope 7	Perry Middlemiss	18 (17)
23	Little Blue Number 3	Perry Middlemiss	6
24	Hold That Tiger! Feb 2021	Terry Morris	6
25	Sparrowgrass & battle-twigs 72	Roman Orszanski	8
26	Knot Likely	Marc Ortlieb	16
27	You Really Know You're Home... #191	Cath Ortlieb	4
28	From the Threshold #2	Ann Poore	10 (9)
29	Debussy 12	Margaret & Bob Riep	14 (13)
30	Bookworm in the Big Apple #1	Lucy Schmeidler	16 (15)
31	The Erotic Wombat 18	Gerald Smith	12
32	Ytterbium 133	Alan Stewart	18 (17)
33	Sonoran Cat #4	R-Laurraine Tutihasi	14 (13)
34	Les Chattes Parties 172	Sally Yeoland	6
			Total: 578 (557)

Supplementary

1	Ansible 402	David Langford (Alan Stewart)	2 (0)
2	Ansible 403	David Langford (Alan Stewart)	2 (0)
3	November 2020 to Feb 2021 Book Reviews	Garry P. Dalrymple	13 (0)
			Total: 17 (0)

**Acting
Official Bloody Editor:**
David Grigg

**President and
OBE Emeritus:**
Bruce Gillespie

Emergency Editor:
Jack Herman

Mailing address:

Email:

A BALLOT FOR OBE OF ANZAPA

We have a contest! Alan Stewart and myself are both standing for the position of ANZAPA OBE. The results will be announced in the April mailing and the new OBE will take office with the June mailing.

You will find a ballot for the position after this mailing. Please fill this in and return to Bruce Gillespie (not me!) either by email or ordinary mail. I dare say if you can't or don't want to mark up the PDF of the ballot, that a simple email with your choice of either Alan or myself, sent to Bruce, would suffice. The deadline, as specified by the constitution, is 10 March 2021, but it would be great if you could respond as soon as possible so that you don't forget to vote.

Naturally, I would be grateful if you would vote for me, but please do feel free to vote for Alan if you prefer his vision of ANZAPA's future to mine.

A WARNING ABOUT ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

I remind members of the second paragraph of the third section of the current constitution. Publications that are "apparently intended to circulate widely outside of ANZAPA in addition to ANZAPA... will not be counted towards a member's minimum activity requirements unless it bears conspicuously on its cover or front page the words 'First published in ANZAPA' (or words to similar effect)". I'm not enforcing this strictly yet, though by rights I should. Please ensure you comply.

A WORD OR TWO IN YOUR EAR

I know that I have said that I will accept contributions in other formats than PDF, such as Word or Libre Office documents, and that I will convert such documents into PDF for you.

However, I have received a few such Word documents over the last few mailings which have (1) embedded Visual Basic macros within them[†]; and/or (2) "Track Changes" turned on and unresolved changes showing. I won't name names, but you know who you are.

Please don't do this. If I'm doing you a favour by generating PDFs for you, it seems to me to be simple courtesy on your behalf to make the process as easy and simple as possible. I hereby give notice that if I receive any more such Word documents which include macros (which are a security hazard) or which have Track Changes turned on, I will be returning them to the person submitting them for clean-up before I deal with them. If that means you miss the mailing deadline, too bad.

[†]If you are not *aware* that your Word documents contain macros, it's highly likely that *you have a software virus on your computer.*

**Next mailing deadline: 11:59 pm AEST
on Friday, 9 April 2021**

Overseas members should probably aim to upload by midnight
Thursday their time.

Upload your files to <https://bit.ly/anzapa-uploads>.

Cover of this OBO:

Based on *Jagdunlueck*
(Hunting Accident) by
Carl Spitzweg (1808-1885)

Membership of ANZAPA as at 5 February 2021

Order	Name	Address	Pages Due
1	Derrick Ashby		6 pp Aug-21
2	Claire Brialey & Mark Plummer		6 pp Aug-21
3	Garry P. Dalrymple		6 pp Apr-21
4	Leigh Edmonds		6 pp Aug-21
5	John & Diane Fox		6 pp Aug-21
6	Bruce Gillespie		6 pp Aug-21
7	Michael F. Green		6 pp Aug-21
8	David Grigg		6 pp Aug-21
9	Jack R. Herman		6 pp Aug-21
10	Kim Huett		6 pp Aug-21
11	Christina Lake		6 pp Aug-21
12	Eric Lindsay & Jean Weber		6 pp Aug-21
13	LynC		6 pp Aug-21
14	Gary Mason		6 pp Aug-21
15	Jeanne Mealy		6 pp Aug-21
16	Perry Middlemiss		6 pp Aug-21

17	Terry Morris	6 pp Aug-21
19	Roman Orszanski	6 pp Aug-21
20	Marc & Cath Ortlieb	6 pp Aug-21
21	Ann Poore	6 pp Aug-21
22	Margaret & Bob Riep	
23	Lucy Schmeidler	6 pp Aug-21
24	Gerald Smith	6 pp Aug-21
25	Alan Stewart	6 pp Aug-21
26	R-Laurraine Tutihasi	6 pp Aug-21
27	Sally Yeoland	6 pp Aug-21

AN EMBARRASSED APOLOGY

I see Jack Herman says in his contribution this mailing about the last OBO cover:

I hope it was an oversight, or an error, but the old man on the OBO cover is making a white-power salute with the fingers on his right hand.

OMG! I hope you know me well enough to believe me when I say that this possible interpretation didn't occur to me at all. Regardless, I apologise for not picking up on that thought and having caused any offense to anyone. I of course utterly condemn any such ideas of white supremacy.

~~MEMBERS COME~~ AND MEMBERS GO...

I'm sad to announce that Jeanne Mealy has resigned from the apa for personal reasons (which she may explain in her final contribution). Sorry to see you go, Jeanne, we hope you can rejoin us some time.

SUPPLEMENTARY?

This may be controversial, but I've decided to separate out franked-in publications which aren't part of the mailing as such, so that those printing out the mailing can choose to print these or not. Let me know your thoughts.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Bruce Gillespie reports:

\$775.05 was the amount in kitty after the February 2020 mailing, the last print mailing. The cost of a black and white printout obviously varies from mailing to mailing, but so far has averaged to approx. \$42 per mailing (500 pages). So there have been five mailings since February = \$210.00.

So the amount of money in kitty at the moment is **\$565.05**.

– David Grigg

Discussion of draft new constitution

CONSTITUTIONAL BULLETIN #1

17 December 2020

Email from David Grigg, Acting OBE:

Dear fellow ANZAPA members:

A recent email from LynC has prompted me to take a better approach to discussions about the proposed new constitution. Earlier this month I had some discussions with individual members which led up to my framing my proposed amendments to the draft. I now realise that I should have been sharing those discussions with the whole membership. I'm now going to try to do that, however belatedly. My sincere apologies if I have mischaracterised anyone's opinion in what follows.

So this is going to be a long email. Gary Mason may have to generate another MEMO if we want all of this on the permanent ANZAPA record (sorry, Gary!).

It's probably worth starting with the observation that the only area of real contention with Jack's draft new constitution appears to be with the opening paragraph. But the contention is fairly fierce. Jack elevated a kind of jokey footnote in the existing constitution and included it in the first clause of the new one: "...in which writers are encouraged to mention science fiction and/or fantasy from time to time if space, time and whim permit".

However, John Newman, in his contribution, said that he would vote against the new constitution if any such subject list was included. My own personal feelings, I must say, though not as strong, are along the same lines.

And Gary Mason was concerned that this phrase neglects any mention of comics, yet comics were an area of interest which was very important when APA-A, later ANZAPA, was originally founded, and are a genre in which some of us (including myself) remain interested. Gary said in his contribution that he would actively campaign against adoption because of this omission.

All of the above is on the public record, as it were.

However, Claire then sent an email spelling out what she would have written in her mailing comments to Gary if she had reached that point in her last contribution:

CLAIRE'S COMMENTS (4 DECEMBER 2020): [EMAIL TO GARY, COPY DAVID]

Gary probably won't be surprised to find that I usually hate this expression and everything it implies, but the tl;dr[*] summary of what follows below is: I'm really sorry not to have realised the implications for you of the 'science fiction' text in the current and draft replacement constitution and the significance of that. I like that text on my own terms but obviously not so much that I'd want to make anyone else feel uncomfortable - not least when I feel I only have a tenuous right, as a Brit, to be here.

The longer version notes that I've learned, in recent years and probably much later than I should, to check my privilege. When I first encountered fandom, through the small friendly ensemble of 'Hitchhikers' fans, I felt rather an outsider and pre-judged; the circle turns, and now I often feel a bit alienated by some of the newer, younger and louder members of the broad sf community who once again make assumptions about me. But in the midst of this I think of 'science fiction' and sf fandom in very broad and inclusive ways - and perhaps that's because for quite a while I was able to feel in the mainstream of it and even at the heart of it. So to me the references in the Anzapa constitution to science fiction seemed unifying, for all of us: a nod to what connects us at the outset, before we get into the discussions of the many, many other things that each of us is interested in (and in some cases also share with at least some others here). I also like the way it doesn't actually impose any requirements about the contents of our apazines.

One of the things that interests me, and of course some others, is fan history; I appreciate that some don't find it interesting even when their own past life is now part of it! Again, that's partly about connections, and I always enjoy finding similarity and empathy with fans of former generations. But, like visiting another country where people mostly speak the same language, there's also always a mixture of the familiar and the strange - and some much more complex aspects to society than I, as a visitor, can properly appreciate.

And so I hadn't initially appreciated the ways in which Anzapa brought together comics fans and sf fans from what then felt like different traditions, and thus the ways that 'science fiction' - especially used here, and kind of officially - can continue not only to seem like a narrower definition than some of us tend to use, but also to ring significant alarm bells about inclusion within our apa community. In that respect, unfortunately it seems to be doing the opposite of emphasising unity.

I think it's important to locate this apa in the context of fandom; I'd be quite happy to make explicit in the first sentence of the constitution the two fandoms that apparently begat Anzapa. Is there an existing amendment that addresses this, by adding 'comics' before 'science fiction' in the first paragraph? If not, I'm willing to propose one. I'm now using both 'comics' and 'science fiction' to cover the broadest sense of those traditions, their works and their fandom - which I personally think means that 'science fiction' could encompass the existing reference to fantasy, but I don't want to open up other wounds or another front of argument by suggesting that's deleted.

I do want this to be understood in the light of the Anzapa back story as Gary set it out. It might not make sense to future members who weren't there then or aren't here now - and it might thus prompt calls for the creation of a much longer constitutional list of fannish interests, which will help no one. So I guess we'd have to accept that we know what we mean and be willing to explain it again later for any later members who, like me until recently, aren't aware of the bigger picture; however much I like footnotes, I have no intention of proposing one for the constitution.

If this doesn't create consensus then I'm stumped about what will (others might be way ahead of me, with luck), but it seems worth a try.

DAVID'S RESPONSE (4 DECEMBER 2020)

I am going to propose an amendment to the first paragraph of the new constitution, essentially removing the last clause all together. But you, and Gary, are of course welcome to put forward suggested amendments with a different take on it. If you can get those to me in the next 24 hours, I'll include them as proposed amendments in the OBO.

GARY'S RESPONSE (4 DECEMBER 2020)::

I know I tend to get carried away on this subject, usually to a greater extent than I intend to, but in view of Leigh's reminder in the last mailing that the original constitution emphasised "amateur journalism" and "communication", I would be happy to support deletion of the final clause of the first paragraph altogether.

I would even be happy to support restoration of Leigh's original wording - getting rid of the unfortunate grocer's apostrophe in "it's", of course.

I do acknowledge that trying to compile a "shopping list" of "encouraged" topics is inherently dangerous, because there may always be new categories of fans who feel excluded by omission, which is why getting rid of it altogether seems best to me. I accept the existing footnote was intended as a joke, and it was inserted during a period when I was gaffed so I don't necessarily know all the nuances of its adoption, but I did think that incorporating it into the first sentence of the main body of the constitution elevated it to a serious affront.

CLAIRE'S RESPONSE (4 DECEMBER 2020):

I'm just about to collapse in a heap after being at the virtual First Thursday (London) pub meeting for about four hours, so I think any further drafting would be beyond me now!

I suspect that in practice no one's going to try to join Anzapa who hasn't found it as a result of being in one of our fannish communities that communicates in writing, so probably my romantic ideas of emphasising that it's rooted in fandom don't matter. I might attempt to explain my attachment to that fannish sense of community when there's a chance for discussion next time, but that's unlikely to be about affecting the constitution in practice and be more about Why We Are Here.

Which is probably one of those thoughts that tends to loom large after discussing many things in a pub, virtual or otherwise, all evening...

[DAVID BACK AGAIN]:

At this point I put forward my proposed Amendment 1, in substantially the same form as it was printed in the last OBO. Change the first paragraph of the draft to read:

CONSTITUTIONAL BULLETIN #2

22 December 2020

Email from David Grigg, Acting OBE:

'The Australian and New Zealand Amateur Publishing Association ("ANZAPA" or "the APA") is an organisation which publishes a bi-monthly compilation ("a mailing") of amateur magazines or fanzines.'

I've had agreement to this amendment from Jack, Gary, Roman and Claire, though I don't propose to quote their emails here (this is already too long).

However, today I received this from LynC, who, as she reminds us, has already set out her position in her recent contributions:

LYNC'S COMMENTS (17 DECEMBER 2020):

Totally agree with the need to spell out the acronyms.

I do not like losing the science fiction and fantasy (Speculative fiction) reference. My thoughts have been made clear on this several times. SFF is the common theme which binds us all - even Gary with his love of superhero comics. The wording means that it is in no way obligatory, but it does let newcomers know where the common interest of this APA lies.

[DAVID BACK AGAIN]:

Clearly, there are strong feelings here on both sides of this question. My modest proposal is this:

How about we include a one- or two-paragraph PREAMBLE to the Constitution briefly setting out the history of ANZAPA (originally APA-A) and its roots in science fiction and comics fandom? It seems to me that would be far more appropriate than including it within the legalistic wording of a constitution (and a preamble would be far easier to amend if desired). If members think this is a good idea, could some of the original members (Leigh, Gary, Bruce?) get together to draft such a preamble?

Whew!

I'll try to collate responses from members and send another email. Again I'll use BCC, though, as I don't want to initiate another email storm. If I'm the central switching point for discussion I think it will be much easier on all of us.

Cheers,

David Grigg, Acting OBE, ANZAPA

I know Christmas is almost upon us, so it's not a great time to be thinking about this kind of stuff. As Gary points out, there's no real urgency to decide on the new constitution.

Nevertheless I had some good responses to my last message, particularly including what I think is an excellent proposal from Leigh Edmonds, so I thought I would update you on that immediately. I'll leave Leigh's suggestion to the very end of this. We can then defer any further discussion on this subject until the February mailing. I'll publish this and the previous bulletin in the OBO so it's on record (and Gary doesn't need to do another MEMO).

So: Here's the substantive responses I've had so far to my last message:

FROM PERRY MIDDLEMISS

Things I agree with:

1. Dropping specific reference to sf, fantasy or any other restrictive adjective from describing the type of contributions that will be allowed.
2. Adding a preamble to gives some sense of the history of the apa and thereby indicates what brings us together.

FROM JOHN NEWMAN

For what it's worth, I value fandom because it accepts those who feel excluded, and I see the application of any form of 'laundry list' as akin to right wing politics where the primary concern seems to be about deciding who is in the tent, and who is outside. About who is US, and who is THEM.

While not being an explicit restriction, the mentioning of certain interests certainly can convey the impression that some are more welcome than others. What else could it do?

The idea of a preamble, instead of the terseness of a 'laundry list', would probably be less of an affront. I'm sure I decided to join Anzapa because I wanted to talk to my friends, and theirs, rather than as a result of reading the constitution! Being in touch with good people, with surprising interests, whose obsessions may even change over time, was my goal and achievement.

For the sake of moving on, I'd accept a preamble instead of a list of fan types, in concept.

FROM GARY MASON

I will resist the temptation to reply to this by a mass email!

But if others do, I'll contentedly crank up another MEMO. However, I think many members have already made it tolerably clear that there is no hurry about sorting this out – the discussion could take place in the body of the mailings, even if it means 2-month gaps between responses.

I think I've already made my position clear – I just don't like implying that some of the common interest areas are above others. A preamble sounds okay, but if it eventuates, it would be good if it quoted Leigh's vision from the original constitution in addition to the things LynC wants.

I accept that it isn't 1968 any more!

FROM BRUCE GILLESPIE

Somewhere in all the discussion over the last few months Leigh Edmonds reminded us of the wording of the original statement of purpose for ANZAPA. It seems still quite adequate to me – but I seem to have lost the statement itself. Perhaps Leigh can remember where he published it most recently.

Failing that, I would go with the current suggestion [...]

However, I like the idea of a preamble about the origins of ANZAPA, that the common origin of participants is fandom, which is an informal organisation that usually but does not necessarily consist of a number of sub-fandoms. In 1968 these mainly consisted of science fiction literature and comics fans, but during the years since has included fans with other interests, such as media SF and fantasy fans. Also, in 1968 the aim was to include fans from Australia and New Zealand, but this aim changed rapidly as fans from other countries wished to join us, particularly because of Australian fandom's bid to hold the World SF Conference in Melbourne in 1975.

Well, that's a rather garbled start, and other people could express it much better. Again, I would call on Leigh Edmonds, if he wants to join the discussion. He would have the clearest idea of the original aims of ANZAPA and the

ways in which these aims have changed over the years.

FROM CLAIRE BRIALEY

I've said more than enough already, but I did want to take the opportunity to support your preamble proposal.

It seems very elegant in both tone and substance. You couldn't get on Zoom and sort out the UK's stagnating trade deal with the EU as well, could you?

FROM DERRICK ASHBY

I seem to recall suggesting a preamble a while ago. It's an idea I would still support. It shouldn't bind any member to do anything, but it should be aspirational. How I hate that word.

FROM LYNC

I'll accept a preamble.

FROM GARRY DALRYMPLE

I would suggest that instead of a 'list', which will always fail to cover every conceivable interest, that we should keep any preamble simple and inclusive, with a statement like 'ANZAPA is an exchange of communication among individuals who identify as members of the community of Science Fiction Fans.' Whether what you mean as 'Real Science Fiction,' Vs what I mean as 'Real Science Fiction' is left undefined, but this does suggest a sense of community and broadly shared interests, rather than a list of Musts or Must Nots.

FROM LEIGH EDMONDS

I take the points made for and against the inclusion of the term 'science fiction' in the opening. As an aside, I've spent the past couple of days cooking my brain trying to explain why the opening statement of the 1948 revision of the Futurian Society of Sydney constitution does not mention science fiction either.

I think it is important that we understand that apas like ANZAPA come out of the traditions of comics and science fiction fandoms - which have a common root if my reading of the history of comics fandom is right. There is a special something about comics and stf fandom which originates, I think, in the common negative public attitude towards those genres which created the ghettos in

which those fandoms were formed. Being trufans in the comic and stf fannish traditions seems to require a certain kind of mentality or way of thinking and expression which gives ANZAPA a particular environment found nowhere else that persists after half a century. Sure, we don't talk about either comics or stf much, but they are the basis of our shared interests even though our writing ranges much more widely.

If this thought is correct then we might like to find a way of including it in a statement about ourselves without making it prescriptive in any way. Your suggestion of the preamble is attractive and I tried to write one, but doing so without turning it into a history lesson didn't work for me.

Might I therefore suggest the following which includes a very short statement about the origins of the apa without setting any restraint on what it does these days. [David: Leigh's addition is indicated by surrounding braces].

'The Australian and New Zealand Amateur Publishing Association ("ANZAPA" or "the APA") is an organisation [which was established in 1968 by Australian comics and science fiction fans. It] publishes a bi-monthly compilation ("a mailing") of amateur magazines or fanzines.'

[DAVID AGAIN]

Personally, I think Leigh has probably cracked it. It's kind of a brief preamble within the first paragraph itself. However, let's leave any further discussion until the February mailing.

I hope you all enjoy as enjoyable a holiday season as is possible in the current trying circumstances. Stay well.

Cheers,
David Grigg, Acting OBE, ANZAPA

If there's no further substantive discussion in this mailing on the new constitution I think I'll put it to the vote in April with the amendment as suggested above by Leigh..

**Don't forget
to vote for OBE!**