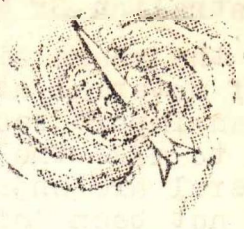


NEWSLETTER



SPECIAL CONVENTION ISSUE

The 7th AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION --EASTER April 8th-10th

The venue for the convention is the Melbourne SF Club room at 19 Somerset Place ,Melbourne C1 2nd Floor. The program is roughly as follows but members will receive a circular from the organiser.

| | | |
|------------|-------------|---|
| Friday 8th | Afternoon; | Informal getting to know one another |
| | 2 PM | Auction of sf magazines books and art work . |
| | Night | : Movie Metropolis |
| Saturday | Afternoon: | Discussion s and Authors panel |
| From 11 AM | Night | : Movie The Seven Faces of Dr Lao or The Haunting |
| Sunday | Afternoon ; | Talks and further auctioning |
| From 2PM | Night | : Movie The Haunting or Dr Lao |

We have a number of short films also booked including some of the NASA films so I would think that the night programs will be starting fairly early .For full final details keep in contact with John Foyster the Organiser or myself.Keep those memberships coming in now. It is absolutely essential that we know how many people are attending as soon as possible. Not only do we need the cash to cover all the expenses we need to make sure we have ample seating and enough refreshments to go around. So

JOIN THE CONVENTION NOW!

Finally best wishes to the convention ,best of luck to John Foyster and the rest of the committee and I hope everybody has a marvellous time.If we all turn up and find Foyster not there we will know he has skipped off to the Mediterranean or somewhere with his new wife,after Merv Barret and Jill.

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This will be the third convention I have been associated with. Most of the people connected with them have left the scene; Bob McCubbin has found his school teaching duties more time consuming ,Ian Crozier got himself married ,enough said . Barry Salgram the play organiser now local rep for Newsweek. Everybodys mate Tony Santos succumbed to his asthma and we all miss him very much. There were many others of course also on the go some like Don Latimer and Keith McLelland we still see occasionally in the club. As for myself, well I never knew what I was letting myself in for when I accepted the job of Librarian of the SF club some years ago .It has been a lot of fun at times and a lot of work but with a little more help from members I think I can keep it going for a while yet. Although we have not put a lot of time into this convention -I really think we were a bit ambitious on the others, but we were let down badly by the country and interstaters- I think this will prove to be the best .We have a strong film program , we hope to have well known author Bert Chandler and we also have a few surprises in store .

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The auction catalogue is now closed but if you have anything to add make a list of it with your name and address at the top, put the reserve prices if any and bring them along on Friday about 11pm .We have quite a lot to auction including some rare books and magazines .There will also be tables where we will lay out the piles of magazines and books for sale other than those to be auctioned.

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Over the years since the first Melbourne Convention the amount of good sf material available has increased considerably. First the American import restrictions went then the space race started and seemed to make the demand for sf bigger than ever. Paperback books in general are enjoying a boom which evidently is here to stay and sf has not been left out. An average of 12 a month pb titles are being published in America and the British are not far behind. Most of the publishers in England publish at least one new or reprint SF title each month. The most consistent of the British HC publishers of SF has been Victor Gollancz who at a guess I would say has done well over 50 titles in the last couple of years. Other publishers tried sf for a while, Michael Joseph and Graysons published a few. Many others like Fabers and Hodder and Stoughton have always published a few but have never gone all out. Recently we have seen Herbert Jenkins and a new firm Ronald Whiting and Wheaton start and you will see from the McGills list they have some good titles. Dobsons however take the prize and I think have now surpassed Gollancz with quality and quantity both. All the Spring announcements from UK are included in the McGills list including the new Fred Hoyle. There seems to be some mystery about the A.C. Clarke and Stanly Kubrick title that was coming from Gollancz and which is being made into a movie by Kubrick who of course made Dr Strangelove.

The SF field in movies leaves much to be desired. You can count the good ones on one hand. Nothing new has been released here recently. The Day of the Triffids is definitely banned. This censorship mob enough to drive you crazy. The promise of good things to come on TV has not been realised. Journey to the Bottom of the Sea is only fair, Outer Limits was good while it lasted, The Twilight Zone also did not last very long and the latest which has some very good effects at times is purely juvenile Lost in Space. Thunderbirds the British puppet series is extremely good but you can pick a lot of holes in this as well as Lost in Space. We can only watch and hope that we will eventually get somebody to produce an sf movie or series that will stand up to our criticism. Just a little more research and a little more thought put into the background to the stories would make all the difference. A good example of what could be done was a recent play on the ABC TV 'Campaign for one' which deals with the problem of an astronaut trapped in space and the political implications of same. We hope to have the Set Designer Kevin Bartlett at the convention to tell us how he put together the very effective set.

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 The Latest US PBs just published in the US include the following :

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| The Atom Conspiracy | Sutton | Ace |
| Bill the Galactic Hero | Harrison | Berkley |
| The Crack in Space | Dick | Ace |
| Empire Star | Delaney | |
| The Tree Lord of Imeten | Purdom | Ace D |
| The Impossibles | Phillips | Pyramid |
| The Frozen Planet | | Maef |
| Podkayne of Mars | Heinlein | Avon |
| This Strange Tomorrow | - | - |
| The Time Bender | Laumer | Berkley |
| Tomorrow Midnight (Illus) | Bradbury | Ballantine |
| The Watch Below | White | Ball |
| The Worlds of R. Heinlein | | Ace |
| Best from Fand SF Vol 11 | Mills | Ace |
| Doomstar | Hamilton | Belmont |
| The Furies | Roberts | Berkly |
| The Mad Metropolis | High | Ace |
| Space Captain | Leinster | - |
| The Rest of the Robots | Asimov | Pyramid |
| Spacehounds of IPC | Smith | .. |
| Waldo and Magic Inc | Heinlein | RP Pyramid |
| Outer Space Stories | Furman | PBs |
| The Sword of Lankor | Cory | Ace |
| Another Part of the Galaxy | Conklin | GM |
| Adventures in Time and Space | Healy & McComas | RP Ball. |

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 Film News: Currently in production Fahrenheit: 451 from the story by Ray Bradbury starring top stars of the moment Julie Christie (Andromeda) and Oskar Werner.

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RECENT and FORTHCOMING SCIENCE FICTION and
FANTASY BOOKS and PAPER BACKS

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------|
| Dark December | Coppel | Jenkins |
| Psychogeist | Davies | .. |
| Trivani | Abel & Baker | Library 33 |
| The Crystal World | Ballard | Cape |
| Fantastic Voyage | Asimov | Dobson |
| (Coming as movie-big stars- should be good) | | |
| Undersea Quest | Pohl and Williamson | .. |
| Star King | Vance | .. |
| Dark Side | Knight | .. |
| Fugitive of Time | Biggle | .. |
| Andover and the Android | Wilhelm | .. |
| Menace from Earth | Heinlein | .. |
| Analog 3 | Campbell | .. |
| The Q Effect | Sellings | .. |
| Interstellar two-five | Rankine | .. |
| New Writings in SF 7& 8 | Carnell | .. |
| The Saliva Tree and other Growths | Aldiss | Faber |
| Best SF Six | Crispin | .. |
| Colossus | Jones | R.H.Davis |
| Window on the Future (Anth) | Hill | ? |
| The Lost Perception | Galouye | Gollancz |
| (Previously announced as | Scourge of Screamers) | |
| Plague of Pythons | Pohl | .. |
| Plague from Space | Harrison | .. |
| Code Three | Raphael | .. |

The average price of above will be \$2.00 or \$2.30 but an exact price will be given of all new titles in future lists.

PAPER BACKS:

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Penguin: | Monkey Planet | Boulle |
| | Alternating Currents | Pohl |
| | Mirror for Observers | Fangborn |
| | Gunner Cade | Judd |
| Corgi | Andromeda Breakthrough | Hoyle |
| Hodder | The Possesors | Christopher |
| Mayflower | Three Worlds to Conquer | ? |
| Panther | Conditionally Human | Miller |
| Pan | Spectrum 3 | Amis and Conquest |
| | The Hammer Omnibus of Horror | Burke |
| | Methuselah's Children | Heinlein |
| | A Century of SF | Knight |
| | Expert Dreamers | Pohl |

Most of these will be out over the next 3 or 4 months

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All the latest issues of the SF magazines are available.
Back lists of books and paperbacks are available on request.
If you are in Melbourne for the Convention dont forget to drop in and see our SF counter on Saturday morning when we will be open till 12 Oclock.

The new Fred Hoyle SF title. was announced last month
October the First is to late - Heiniemann