

FANEW SLETTER NINETY - NINE

Edited and Published by Leigh Edmonds, PO Box 103, Brunswick, Victoria 3056,
AUSTRALIA. Information about subscription rates, schedule or agents of no
particular importance. A U-Boat Publication 21/6/78

FINAL ISSUE: There hasn't been an issue of FANEW SLETTER since UNICON IV back at the end of March, this has been because since then your humble editor has been in a state of gafia brought on by the convention. Personally I found the convention an enjoyable event, but only because it was a good excuse to sit around with a lot of fine fannish friends for a long time. Apart from that I considered the convention a disaster in most areas of organisation and in the attitude of the organisers to their job and the people they were supposed to be serving. If you want to know more about the many and various failings of UNICON IV you'd best write to Christine & Derrick Ashby, PO Box 175, South Melbourne, Victoria and ask for a copy of the second issue of "The Hag and the Hungry Goblin" which tells the story.

After UNICON, and even on the last day of the event, I decided that if the convention was any indication of the way in which SF and fandom in Australia was going I was not interested in having anything to do with it. Since FANEW SLETTER has had a lot to do with fandom since 1974 the only course of action was to cease publishing it. At the time I was also rather upset at the treatment being handed out to people who were members of the convention and especially in the area of the awards, an area which I covered in some detail in the two previous issues of this newszine. Having gone to some trouble to couch my language in terms which were as non-offensive and helpful as I could under the circumstances it was very upsetting to realise that my efforts had gone for nothing and that the awards were an even bigger mess than I had thought possible.

There are a few other less important reasons leading to my decision which would take up some time and hardly be worth reading.

WHERE TO GET THE NEWS NOW: Since I said some time ago that FNS would be ceasing publication two adventurous fellows have leapt into print with replacements. The more impressive venture is the one centred around Mervyn Binns, AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS. There has been one issue so far and another is in preparation and should be out in a week or so. It will be more or less monthly, very nicely done offset with little photos and drawings and stuff. It will have professional and fan news from Australia and overseas. It is a commendable effort and after the first issue Mervyn tells me that he has 85 subscribers, more than FANEW SLETTER had at the best of times. Ofcourse, if you can afford to send out a thousand or so sample copies you get such a response. Write to Mervyn if you haven't seen a copy, I loaned him the FNS mailing list so you should all have received copies. If not, his address is, 305 Swanston Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000.

The other person to go into print is John Foyster with a revived version of **CHUNDER**. It is either two or four pages and tri-weekly. So far there have been three issues and another should be about any time now. It carries news of a more fannish nature and I reckon it's pretty good. Write to John and ask for a copy if you like, his address is GPO Box 4039, Melbourne, Vict 3001.

NEWS, THERE MUST BE SOME NEWS: Yes indeed there is news, the only problem with it is that either Mervyn Binns or John Foyster has already printed it. Anyhow...

Paul Stevens has won the 1978 DUFF race and he will be attending the 1978 World SF Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, USA next August/September. He won by an extremely large majority over the two rivals who were Shayne McCormack and Keith Taylor.

There are a lot of conventions lined up for the next year, starting in August with a convention in Sydney, another in Sydney next Australia Day and then the 1979

Australian SF Convention again in Sydney.

Talking about organisational problems with conventions, at UNICON IV the people bidding for the Sydney National Convention next year were chastised by John Foyster, among others, for announcing the name of their Guest of Honour before they had won the bid. Announcing names is said to cause people to vote for writers and not for the organisational ability of committees. As it was they announced that Robert Heinlein would be their Guest of Honour and now we have every reason to believe that Heinlein will not be attending and that he may infact never have intended attending that convention. This leaves that committee in a bad position, having promised and not being able to deliver, having gained votes on the strength of something which may be no more than a good guess. If the rest of the convention is to be run that way... but I've already had more than enough fun and criticism from going into print pointing out the obvious in lack of decent management of conventions... So why not do it one more time...

At UNICON IV Christine & Derrick Ashby, agahst at what was happening, decided to run a convention in Melbourne next year, partly just to show people how conventions should be organised but also to make sure that Melbourne has atleast one convention next year. At UNICON they went about drafting people to their committee and it was very common knowledge that such a move was on. A short time later we received in the mail a flyer from the people who "organised" UNICON announcing a Film Festival for next Easter, the same time that Christine & Derrick had chosen first. We are reliably informed that the people at UNICON knew that there was already a convention planned for next Easter. However, the flyer was so vague as to be almost a written rumor, the only things it stated as fixed were the price of admission, the date of the event and the date of their proposed Progress Report. Well, so far the 25th May has passed and we have seen no such report or heard from anyone else about one. Perhaps the rest of their organisation is of the same level.

EASTERCON: Along with this issue are a stack of flyers, the white one and the phamplet for the hotel are for the Convention to be held in Melbourne next Easter. So far as I know at this date there are no changes to any of the items listed on that sheet, the only addition is that we can now announce the Guests of Honour. The Professional Guest of Honour is A. Bertram Chandler and the Fan Guest of Honour is Brian Thurogood. In the white sheet it says that we would be having no overseas Guests of Honour but we could not restrain ourselves even if New Zealand is only a short hop away these days and Bert knows more about being over seas than the rest of the whole convention put together will.

The Committee of EasterCon aren't promising much in the way of conventions, the only thing they are promising is a good well run convention.

OTHER BITS OF PAPER: There is a GUFF voting form and a FAAn Award voting form, the winner of GUFF will, with luck, be attending the World SF Convention in the UK next year. The FAAn Awards are given by fanzine fans to fanzine fans. No Australian nominated in these awards this year, I hope that quite a few will get around to voting.

Talking about GUFF and other things...

Since FNS is going to an early grave Valma and I have decided to bring out another fanzine called GIANT WOMBO. It will be a fannish fanzine, about bi-monthly and if there is anything much about sf in it it is there by accident. All subscribers to FNS will get the first issue, if you like it you can swap over what's left of your FNS subscription to GW. If you don't want it I'll refund the rest of your FNS sub, but unless you write and tell me I'll assume that you want to sub to GIANT WOMBO.

And since I have little else to say the last couple of lines are blank.

F A N E W S L E T T E R L A S T G A S P

(Even with its dying breath FANEW SLETTER manages to scoop the opposition. Dated 9th July 1978.)

GORDY DICKSON TO BE SYNCON GoH: Since it has eventuated that Robert Heinlein was in fact not invited by SynCon to be their GoH and is therefore not coming the replacement is to be the popular American writer Gordon R Dickson. Being quite biased about this I am much happier at the prospect of going to a convention to meet Dickson than I am to meet Heinlein. Matter of fact, I was tossing up whether to go to the National Convention next year at all, now I'm fairly sure that I'll be going.

ROBERT SHECKLEY SICK: Sheckley, who was to be the Guest of Honour at UNICIN V next Australia Day weekend in Sydney has reported in sick and will be unable to attend the convention, or the workshop which is to follow the convention. Nobody seems to know whether there will be a replacement for Sheckley sought overseas, we hope so though at this stage it will not be an easy thing to organise.

FILM FESTIVAL CALLED OFF: The latest word on the Film Festival which was to be held in or around the Melbourne University next Easter is that it has been called off. We have heard no reason for the cancellation although we understand that the original idea was not agreed to by all the members of MUSFA, that the flyer sent out about the film festival was the work of only a couple of MUSFA members and that the rest of the Association may have squashed the idea.

HUGO VOTING FORMS ETC: Due to some confusion in the ranks of the IGUANACON there has been delays in sending the Hugo voting forms and the 1980 WorldCon site selection forms to Australians. These forms are now available but to get them you will have to contact the Australian Agent for IGUANACON, Mervyn Binns and he will send you copies of the forms. The confusion is to be regretted but unavoidable due to the many troubles that the committee organising the convention have suffered. Mervyn's address is on the first page of this issue under "Where To Get The News Now". The deadline for voting in the Hugo's and like is the 31st July so you'll have to move quickly to get your votes in by then.

GUFF: Due to my recent dose of GAFIA things on the GUFF scene have been very slow, the bank balance is still very low and I've received only a mere handful of votes. That things have been slow is understandable since nobody has been making any great noises about the Fund. This state of affairs will soon have to come to an end...

At the moment the most current source of news on GUFF is going to have to be CHUNDER, produced by John Foyster. If anybody considers it unfair that John is also one of the candidates they might suggest to John Alderson and Eric Lindsay that they too produce frequent and widely distributed newsletters.

GUFF will be attempting to raise money through all the usual means, that includes a postal auction of sorts, getting people to donate money at conventions through various kinds of enticement and arm twisting (highlight of which will be the "slave" auction at EASTERCON next year), and getting as many people to vote and pay over their \$1.50 when they do so. Famous fanzine editors like Marc Ortlieb and one or two others we won't embarrass here might consider donating the subscriptions to their fanzines for a month or to to GUFF. There must be many other ways of raising money and good will, all you have to do is use your imaginations.

I will attempt to issue bulletins on a regular basis telling of the progress of the fund, give me a month to get the first one ready.



Irwin Hirsch (117)
279 Domain Rd
Stn Yarra
Vic 3141

Sender:
Leigh Edmonds
PO Box 103
Brunswick
Victoria 3056
AUSTRALIA

EASTERCON 7

* From the people (well, some of them, anyway) who gave you AUSSIECON - a real old-fashioned convention like mother used to make!

* No big-name overseas guests of honour. No contentious awards. No convusion. No rip-offs.

* Just a cosy, well-run convention built around the idea that a convention should entertain members in comfort, at modest expense. The programme is not finalized, but we will cater to all tastes (hang on a minute, it's not that sort of convention! We-ell, all tastes within reason). Guests of honour cannot yet be announced, but we think that you'll be pleasantly surprised. Comprehensive progress reports will be issued.

* Proposed programme items include: Feminism in sf. The science fiction of Harlan Ellison, Melbourne in 2001, Art in sf, Close encounters of the fourth kind: sex in sf, The Paul Stevens report: SF publishing in Australia. Plus the usual masquerade, Great Wall of China, and the most unusual GUFF slave auction.

* A number of excellent films will be shown.

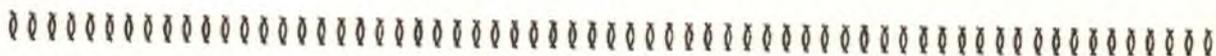
* EASTERCON 7 will be presented for your delectation non stop from Friday 13th April to Monday 16th April, 1979 at the Melbourne Sheraton Hotel, 13 Spring Street Melbourne.

* Current room rates \$29.00 twin, \$25.00 single.

* Membership rates: \$7.50 attending, \$4.00 supporting, until 31/12/78.

* Hotel meals are the usual price, but the Feeding of the Five Thousand will be performing its normal loaves and fishes routine, and the Sheraton is within short walking or tramping distance of what will be open in Melbourne at Easter.

* EASTERCON 7 will be brought to you by Christine Ashby (Treasurer and co-chairman), Derrick Ashby (Memberships and Co-Chairman), Leigh Edmonds, Carey Handfield (Gestapo & Chief of Staff), Robin Johnson (Hotel liason), and Paul Stevens.



NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

Will you be staying at the Sheraton? If yes, indicate which nights you will want accomodation.

FULL _____ SUPPORTING _____

Friday 13th _____ SINGLE _____
Saturday 14th _____ TWIN _____
Sunday 15th _____
Monday 16th _____

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE:

SEND NO MONEY FOR ACCOMODATION.

P.O. Box 175,
STH MELBOURNE, 3205
VICTORIA.

GUFF BALLOT FORM

GUFF is a one-shot fan fund which has been created to send/bring a popular Australian fan to the British 1979 World SF Convention, SEACON. There are fan funds between America and Europe and between America and Australia (TAFF and DUFF) but by holding a special fund contest between Australia and Britain British fans will get to see what a dinkum Aussiefan looks like and Australian fandom will express a unique kind of support for SEACON.

GUFF will be a success through the efforts and support of fandom. The candidates will be voted for by fans all over the world and each vote is accompanied by a donation of not less than \$1.50 or £0.80. These votes and other donations and financial support will make GUFF a success.

WHO MAY VOTE: Anyone who has been active in fandom (fanzines, conventions, clubs etc.) prior to January 1977 and who contributes \$1.50 or £0.80 to the fund may vote. Contributions greater than the minimum are gratefully received. Only one vote per person is allowed, no proxy votes and you MUST sign your ballot. Details of the voting will be kept secret and write-ins are permitted. Money orders and cheques should be made payable to the administrators and not to GUFF.

DEADLINE: Votes must reach the administrators by the 30th April, 1979.

HOW THE VOTES ARE COUNTED: Votes are counted using the optional-preferential system which results in a majority win. You may rank the candidates in the order you wish to vote, if the leading first-place candidate does not get a majority of the votes cast the lowest-ranking candidate is dropped and his second-place votes are redistributed to the remaining candidates. In a three person contest such as this one this process will guarantee that one of the remaining candidates wins by a clear majority. If you wish to give preferences in your vote it is therefore important to vote for second and third places on your ballot.

However voters have the option of voting only for their choice of candidates and not allotting preferences. If you wish to do this simply place a "1" beside your choice and ignore the others. When the votes are counted, if you have voted for the lowest placed candidate and there is no clear majority, your ballot will be discarded when preferences are redistributed.

DONATIONS: GUFF will need contributions or money and material (for auction) in order to be a success. If you are ineligible to vote or do not feel qualified to vote donations will be gratefully accepted anyway.

THE CANDIDATES: On the reverse side of this sheet are listed the names of the candidates, the names of their nominators and a short statement in support of their candidature. Each candidate has posted a bond and promised that, barring acts of god, he will travel to the 1979 World SF Convention at Brighton, Britain.

SEND COMPLETED BALLOTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

British Administrator

Dave Langford
22 Northumberland Avenue
Reading
Berkshire RG2 7PW
UNITED KINGDOM

Australian Administrator

Leigh Edmonds
PO Box 103
Brunswick
Victoria 3056
AUSTRALIA

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THE GUFF PLATFORMS

John Alderson

With your help this is going to be my first overseas convention. I am a faned and a fan-writer as well as an aspiring author with several published stories to my credit, and I have just finished a novel. Farmer by profession, interests in history, mythology and anthropology. Science fiction just comes naturally though living a long way from Melbourne has cut me off from much fan activity so I am better known by my writings. I am consequently a rural fan, a different, rare and very distinctive breed with a taste for wine and Yorkshire pudding.

Nominators: Pete Presford, Andrew Darlington, Marc Ortlieb, Lee Harding & Paul Stevens

John Foyster

Attended Australian SF conventions since 1958: chairman of 1966 and 1971 conventions. Published many fanzines since 1961 including THE WILD COLONIAL BOY, SATURA/THE GRYPHON, EXPLODING MADONNA/THE JOURNAL OF OMPHALISTIC EPISTEMOLOGY. Coedited (with Edmonds) NORSTRILIAN NEWS and BOYS' OWN FANZINE. Guest edited AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW and SF COMMENTARY. Member of SAPS (1962-1972), FAPA (1969-1972, 1976-), OMPA (1969), ANZAPA (on and off since 1968). Won Ditmar for best fanzine (1970) and best Australian SF (1973). Initiated DUFF (1972). Twice founded The Nova Mob. When backed into a corner about his SF criticism pleads guilty but insane. Dislikes motor cars.

Nominators; Christopher Priest, Peter Nicholls, John Bangsund, Carey Handfield & Robin Johnson

Eric Lindsay

To Whom It May Concern,

This is to certify that Eric B Lindsay is full of GUFF. May he therefore be exiled back to the Old Dart and fed on water and bread as his ancestors were on the reciprocal journey beforehim. May he, moreover, be held up to Scorn and Ridicule and let his name be an Abomination and an Awful Warning. Here, but for the enlightened law of Transportation, is what Englishmen might have descended to.

He is guilty of Publishing Fanzines, writing LoCs, attending conventions, forgetting things, putting on conventions, writing articles, talking to fans, forgetting things, reading science fiction, using SR 1, collecting books, forgetting things, attending parties, throwing parties, forgetting things and forgetting things.

Nominators: Terry Jeeves, Dave Rowe, Ken Ozanne, Keith Curtiss & Neville Angove

I VOTE FOR	Signature
John Alderson	Name (print)
John Foyster	Address
Eric Lindsay

Enclosed is my contribution to GUFF of (\$1.50 or 80p minimum)
If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, in order to make sure of qualifying for voting please give the name and address of a fan or fan group to whom you are known.
Name Address

1978 FANZINE ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS: FINAL BALLOT

The FAAns are fanzine peer awards created to reflect the opinions of the creative fanzine fans of book and magazine SF. Nomination and voting are limited to those active in the fanzine field during the previous year with nomination restricted in each category to those eligible themselves for nomination in the category, and voting open to anyone eligible to be nominated in any category.

IF YOU NOMINATED: Read "General Instructions", then go on to the ballot. Your voting fee has been paid and your credentials established.

IF YOU DID NOT NOMINATE: (1) Submit credentials showing you were eligible to nominate, having done one of the following during 1977; edited a fanzine; had published in a fanzine an article, story, essay, review, or artwork; or had at least two letters published in different editors' fanzines. ("Fanzine" is here defined as a publication dealing with book and magazine SF, its authors and/or fans, which does not pay its contributors, and which is published for enjoyment to which financial profit is incidental.)

Credentials; .

(2) Include a minimum voting fee of \$1 US (or equivalent) to help defray the cost of trophies and balloting expenses. Ballots received without this fee cannot be counted.

(3) Read "General Instructions," then vote.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: You may vote in all categories, but are not obligated to do so. Skip categories in which you do not feel qualified to make an informed decision. Mark your choices in each category in order of preference, "1" for your first choice, "2" for your next, etc. Votes will be counted by the Automatic Runoff system. In addition to voting for the awards, you are invited to choose among the nominees to fill the three seats on the Awards Committee which will become vacant this year -- vote for the three of your choice.

Mail your completed ballot (and your voting fee, if you did not nominate) to the appropriate agent, to arrive no later than 1 August 1978.

US Agent: Bruce Pelz, 15931 Kalisher Street, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Canada Agent: Mike Glicksohn, 141 High Park Ave., Toronto, Ontario
M6P 2S3

Australia Agent: Leigh Edmonds, PO Box 103, Brunswick, Vict 3056

UK Agent: Ian Maule, 18 Hillside, 163 Carshalton Rd., Sutton,
Surrey SM1 4NG

Verbatim reproduction of this ballot is encouraged.

1978 FANZINE ACTIVITY

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

FINAL BALLOT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

BEST FAN EDITOR:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donn Brazier (TITLE) | <input type="checkbox"/> Terry Hughes (MOTA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don D'Ammassa (MYTHOLOGIES) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rob Jackson (MAYA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Glycer (SCIENTIFRICTION) | <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria Vayne (SIMULACRUM) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No Award |

BEST FAN WRITER:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don D'Ammassa | <input type="checkbox"/> Don C Thompson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Glicksohn | <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Wood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Shaw | <input type="checkbox"/> No Award |

BEST FAN ARTIST (HUMOROUS):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harry Bell | <input type="checkbox"/> Alexis Gilliland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Canfield | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Rotsler |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Derek Carter | <input type="checkbox"/> Dan Steffan |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No Award |

BEST FAN ARTIST (NON-HUMOROUS):

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim McLeod | <input type="checkbox"/> Al Sirois |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Odbert | <input type="checkbox"/> Micheal Streff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> James Shull | <input type="checkbox"/> Taral |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No Award |

BEST LETTER-OF-COMMENT WRITER:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avedon Carol | <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Amanda Salmonson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don D'Ammassa | <input type="checkbox"/> Harry Warner Jr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Glicksohn | <input type="checkbox"/> No Award |

BEST SINGLE ISSUE OF A FANZINE:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Psi 1 (Taral) | <input type="checkbox"/> Simulacrum 7 (V. Vayne) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fanthology '76 (V. Vayne) | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Inquisition 10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maya 14 (R. Jackson) | <input type="checkbox"/> (J. Kaufman & S. Tompkins) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No Award |

Fanzine Activity Achievement Award Committee (Vote for 3):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brian Earl Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Terry Hughes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don D'Ammassa | <input type="checkbox"/> Peter Roberts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Farber | <input type="checkbox"/> Stu Shiffman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gil Gaier | <input type="checkbox"/> Taral |

If you wish a direct report of the voting results, check here /_/ and include a SASE with your ballot.

Voting Deadline: August 1, 1978