

# ***LITTLE BLUE NUMBER 11***

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This fanzine acknowledges the members of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which it is produced in Hawthorn, Victoria, and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

## **INTRODUCTION**

This issue is going to be short, very short. There will probably only be mailing comments which are direct replies to comments made to me by ANZAPAns in their most recent contributions. Just as I was about to commence my work on this month's LBN I was diagnosed with Covid and stuck in isolation for a week. That normally wouldn't have been all that bad, but this virus has come with a lack of concentration and energy. It hasn't been too bad – except for a day or two – but I'm tired all the time, so some things just won't get done by the deadline.

**oooOooo**

By now you will be aware that the campaign run in the Federal Electorate of Kooyong by the “teal independent” Dr Monique Ryan was successful with her defeating the incumbent Josh Frydenberg. This will be the first time since the 1940s that this electorate has been represented by anything other than a member of the Liberal Party – remembering that this was Robert Menzies's seat. It is, to say the least something of a shock. Even though the State Government electorate of Hawthorn fell to the Labor Party for the first time since 1955 at the last State Election it just seemed inevitable that Frydenberg would get back up. It looked like being close but...

So here we are, living in the People's Republic of Hawthorn. Strange days indeed. Hopefully, strange and interesting, in a good way.

## **Comments on Mailing 326**

### **Chez Ashby 6 – Derrick Ashby**

I was very sorry to hear your news about Christine. I hope life treats you a little more kindly in the future.

Re YCtoMe on Dwyer: I think a number of authors have their time in the sun and then their reputation starts to face after a while. A bit over 100 years ago C J Dennis was the most popular writer in Australia with probably one in three houses having a copy of at least one of his books. Now? Mostly forgotten.

### **Quoz 82 – Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer**

**Mark** – Re YCtoLeigh on tea-ladies: I started in the Australian Federal Public Service in January 1980, I think. To the best of my memory we didn't have a tea lady in Adelaide, though we did have to line up and receive our fortnightly pay in cash, in envelopes (“Don't leave the area of the desk

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until you've counted it!"). I then moved to Canberra in September 1981 and we did have a tea lady there, for a few years. Not sure when they stopped. •

**Claire** – My sympathies to Mark on the death of his father. Having experienced my own a few years back I can say that it can be hard to handle. •

It's good to see that more of the Seishi Yokomizo novels are being translated into English. I must get to the ones I haven't read as yet – he says, looking at the long line of stuff he currently has to read for the podcast and to vote in this year's Hugo Awards. •

ReYctoMe on *Wakakozake*: I hadn't previously heard of this but will attempt to check it out. •

ReYctoMe on conversations between Robyn and Wendy: I'm fairly certain things are getting "hatched" in one way or another. No point in trying to figure it out though, just nod and say "yes, dear". •

### The Fiery Participle 18 – Leigh Edmonds

Re YctoMe on fanzine numbering: so the truth is revealed. I knew there would be a reason, even if it is a bit unfathomable. •

ReYcto Laurraine on Iceland: our trip consisted of a few days either side of a guided bus trip. Only a small min-bus, mind, 16 or so people including the driver. We had thought about driving ourselves but in the end decided on this tour and we're glad we did. It gave us the chance to enjoy the ride and the countryside without having to worry about small roads and other tourists. •

ReYctoSally on our podcast: you are generally correct about our Hugo Time Machine episodes in that we are usually sympathetic to the material on offer. I guess it's basically because that was our starting point in sf and we tend to look on it kindly. 1968 wasn't a great year. There has to be one or two of them. •

### \*brg 122\* – Brue Gillespie

ReYctoMe on *The Devil's Advocate*: I can give you the inside dope that Text Publishing will not be reprinting this novel as part of their Australian Classics series. The internal reader's report was rather scathing on the homophobic aspect of the novel. I was aware of it during the reading but didn't think it detracted that much from the overall work. •

### From the Lair of the Lynx 122 – LynC

Thanks for your notes on the Nova Mob speech I gave in March. I'm glad you thought it went well. It's always hard to tell if these things are appreciated at all, and the Nova Mob is one tough audience. •

### Crash of the Hard Disk 59 – Gary Mason

Yes, Gary, I also enjoyed lunch. And I have no problems with anyone deciding on having breakfast at any time of the day. •

Re library deposits of publications: So, I've got into the habit of lodging PDF copies of my fanzines into the National Library. Setting up an account was easy enough and the deposit only takes a few minutes. One of the things I did note, however, was that a deposit with the National Library also covers any deposit you might be required to make in your home state. •

**And that's it. I did read the mailing, or most of it, but energy is very low. Next time.**