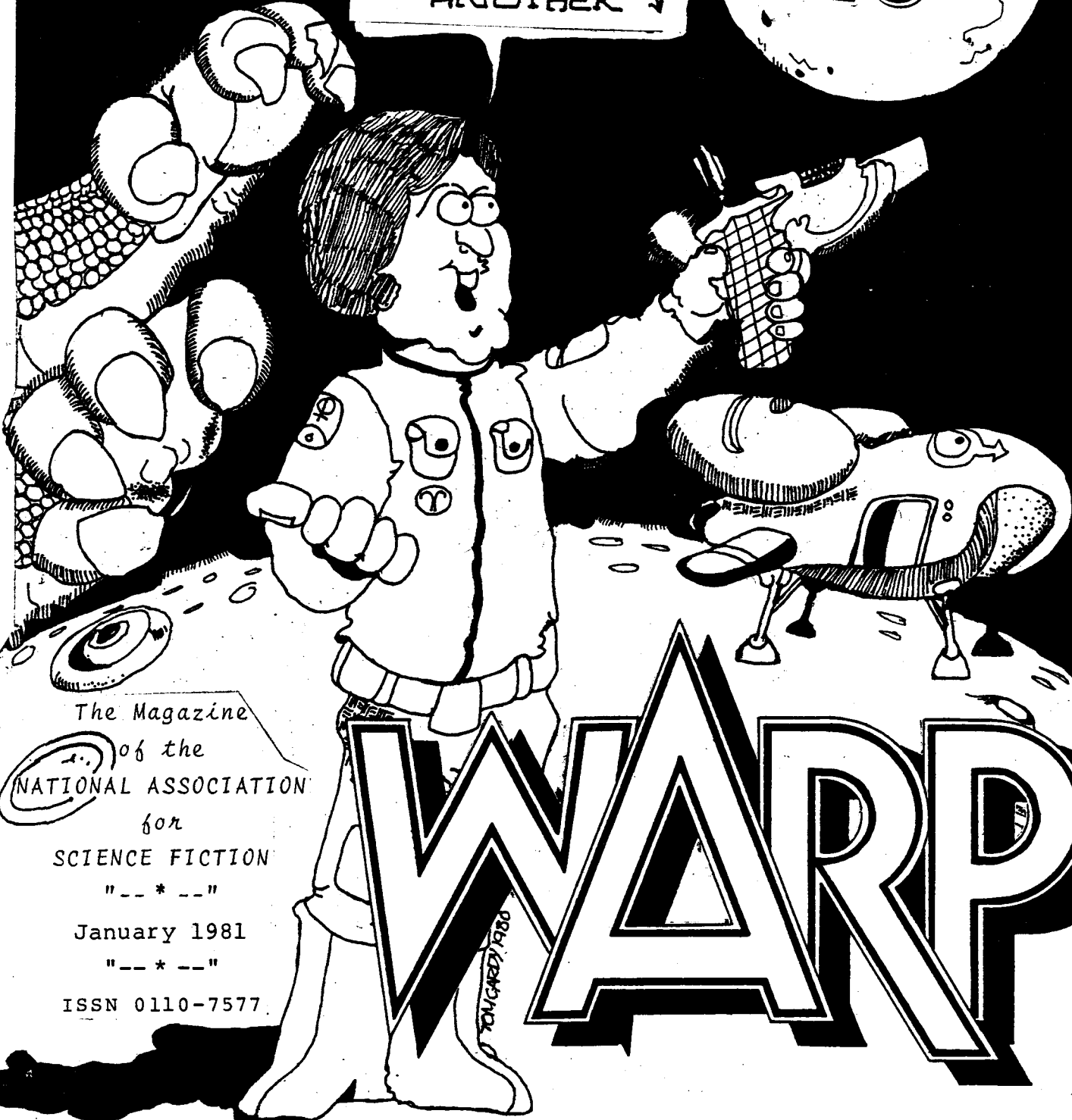


COME ON,
YOU GUYS!
IT'S ONLY
ANOTHER →

ISSUE #
20



The Magazine
of the
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
for
SCIENCE FICTION
" * * * "
January 1981
" * * * "
ISSN 0110-7577

WARP

WARP



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Editorial staff: Greg Hills.
Helpers: Gary Perkins, David White, George Floratos, AANZ, Linette Horne.

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE FICTION

The address for all WARP-related correspondence is P.O.Box 6655,

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL FOR WARP 21 IS
1ST MARCH 1981...so hurry!

Te Aro,
Wellington,
NEW ZEALAND.

Contents for the 20th Issue:

Cover-art by Tom Cardy, lettering Chris Morrin, layout Greg Hills--	1
Publishing information and Contents Pages--	2
Editorial--	3
Yggdrasil (news from all over)--	4
Reviews & Articles (WEB (John Wyndham), by David Cropp--	8
(A STONE IN HEAVEN (Poul Anderson), by Trevor Gudsell--	9
(Model-Building, by Lindsay Thompson --	10
(SUPERMAN II (Film), by Greg Hills--	11
Yggdrasil/Final Notes--	14
Communications (letters from readers) --	15
Final Notes Department --	21
Constitution of NASF--	23

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Harvey Kong Tin, 13, 18.
Duncan Lucas, 16.

James Young, 7.
Terry Collister, 9, 11.
Greg Hills, 15.
David White, 21.

NOTE: This WARP is accompanied by TANJENT 12 and FISSION CHIPS 1. However, due to the arrangements made with the respective editors, correspondence related to either (beyond a simple affirmation of interest or disinterest) should be addressed to the respective editor and the respective addresses: TANJENT, PO Box 11205, Wgtn.
FISSION CHIPS: 137 Richardson St, Dunedin.
WARP's address, likewise, tops this page and should be used for all WARP or NASF correspondence (WARP is a NASF production, by the way, not vice-versa!)

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Dunedin: 137 Richardson Street, Dunedin, NZ.

And Other Useful Addresses:

Aotearapa, 137 Richardson Street, Dunedin, NZ.
NORCON '81, PO Box 5651, Wellesley St, Auckland, NZ.
Alternative Factor STREK, PO Box 4188, Wanganui.
Upper Hutt SF Soc, 43 McLeod Avenue, Upper Hutt.

by Greg Hills.

editorial

I was going to start this with the quip, Well, here we are again after the usual sort of unbelievable hassles... But realised at the last moment what a massive understatement that would be!

Consider the way I used to produce WARP: type up, lay out, paste up; send pages to Duncan Lucas (in Auckland) to electrostencil; receive back, print up, collate, staple, envelope, post out. I could never allow enough time for that Lucas bit: hence the one-week's delay per issue since I started it (WARPs 18 & 19).

Then, over Xmas/New Year, new problem: no stencils over holidays. Fine, we'll just delay the January issue a little til Duncan can do the stencils. Result: WARP 19½.

In New Year, new problem, same place: Duncan can not get to electrostencil device any more. Result: no can do stencils. PANIC!!!

But there was a solution. Buy a Gestefax electrostencil device Duncan found for us, at a low, low price: a mere \$395.00. New problem: no money to do so. Solution: get other people to do in \$; and some people did so--Gary Perkins, NASF, the Astronautics Assn (which I mistakenly referred to as the NZ Spaceflight Assn; sorry), George Floratos, Linette Horne. \$250.00 off my mind! And surew'd bargaining dropped the price to \$350.00 (plus an extra \$52.50 for 100 stencils).

Then there was the hassle with this type--the engine jammed. Fearing the worst, I put it in for repairs, expecting to pay over \$100 costs. It had a puny punchline, this hassle---the actual bill was only \$7.50...

Then we have the flat-moving business---I have moved from my previous gungy dump to a tower position at 256 Adelaide Road (telephone 894728---no collect calls, please). Naturally all was chaos while I was moving.

Then there is another problem, contingent on the previous one: since 256 Adelaide Road (Lookithat House) now houses Gary Perkins and Dave White too, it has become a notable fannish meeting ground for Wellington fan. Perhaps three nights in the last month and more have not seen someone(s) drop round. Obviously people-in-person can drag almost anyone away from typers and other devices, at least for a while...

Then we have the Story/Art contest: at first I planned to print the winners herein. Bah! The judge ignored deadline after deadline till I finally gave up and decided to put it all in WARP 21. Then he delivered the judgement within hours... (I must note he had pressing reasons---much the same as mine, listed above---so we can forgive him; besides, he was Gary Perkins and I have to live with him, so...)

Jobs---I now have a permanent slot in the PO, working in the mailroom at POHQ. Ie, I have switched positions (within the PO---I was with Telephones in Tory Street). After some hassles. And fiscal insecurity...

I can't go on. The list is long and complicated and depressing.

But WARP (and TANJENT) emerges triumphant! Here we are, only a month late, and the next issue will be out on time! Unless the Gestefax blows, or the typers all fizz, or similar disaster strikes, WARP 21 will be out in a month's time. I have all the material I need on hand for it, except letters (write fast!). But please send more material, because enough for WARP 21 is about all I have (except for fiction...) It is unusual for me to have even that, but there're few situations that cannot be improved.

A page I gave me, a page I've given back to you. That's it from me, Enjoy the ish.

----- Greg.

NASF QUESTIONNAIRE AND ORBITER REPORT:

YPPDRASK

Response so far after the Xmas/New Year season has been about as expected, e.g. terrible. This should pick up now it's all behind us. If you are still holding your questionnaires, please return them now.

I note in particular the dreadful response²/₃ from Wellington!

Now, then. Out of the 15 responses up till 25th January, the Orbiter has been marked

about as follows:	<u>PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINES:</u>	OMNI	6. (\$)
ISAAC ASIMOV'S	5	FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION	5
ANALOG	3	GALAXY (@)	3
STARLOG	2	AMAZING	2
FUTURE	1	FANTASTIC (@)	1

(@)---FANTASTIC has been merged with AMAZING. GALAXY is apparently dead (RIP). Accordingly these two zines will not be available. Irritating but inescapable.

(\$)---OMNI has the required 6 names and if all put their money in, will be started immediately. The last reported sub rate (Sept 1980 issue) was \$30.00 to NZ, but they have just had a postal rise so this may soon rise, too. But for now, that's \$5.00 each for the OMNI sub (applications now open for a second six-pack...)

ASIMOV'S and F&SF both require only one more response to be launched.

	<u>SEMI-PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINES:</u>	LOCUS	5
SF REVIEW	5	BSFA	4
FILE 770	2	STARSHIP (ALGOL)	1

MONTHLY NASF RECEIPTS: Yes, 5; No, 4; ? or no mark, 4.

PRELIMINARY TABULATION OF NASF POLL: 15 responses to 25th January 1981:

- (1): Margaret Lambert, Frank Macskasy jr, Greg Hills, J N Coppins, Tim Jones, Lindsay Thompson, Robert Fowles, Duncan Lucas, Brian Strong, Elizabeth Gardner, Bruce Ferguson, David Cropp, Roy Philburn, Bruce Symondson, Gillian Calvert.
- (2): Wellington, 6; Auckland, 3; Christchurch, 2; Dunedin, 1; Others, 3.
- (3): Myob, but 8 quoted numbers, 7 did not (some put ??? in the space...)
- (4): Youngest, 18; oldest, 41; average age---drat, calculator fritxed---about 25. 10--19: 2; 20--29: 7; 30--39: 2; 40 & over: 2. Two people did not mark ages. This statistic contrasts interestingly with the real distribution (see final rep).
- (5): Low score 1 month(!); high score 4 years & 6 months; average about 2½ years. Under 1 year: 2; 1--2 years: 2; 2--3 years: 5; 3--4 years: 3; 4 & over: 3.
- (6): Excellent: 2; Good: 10; So-so: 1; Poor: 1. One person did not score.
- (7): Miss for now, also (8) & (9); see the final report in WARP 21.
- (10): Yes, 10; No, 0; MAYBE/DON'T KNOW, 5. Meseemeth people like cons...
- (11): Satisfaction, with awareness of room for improvement, plus determination to actively help with improvement if need be.
- (12): Yes, 13; No, 0; ?, 1; INDIFFERENT, 1.
- (13): Oh, Ghod, dozens! But Asimov, McCaffrey, Tolkien, Anderson, polled best by my eyeball scrutiny. Heinlein & Clarke, strangely, did not do as well.
- (14): Again, dozens, and this time I'll give them a miss till WARP 21.
- (15): ASIMOV'S, 4; STARLOG, 3; ANALOG, 2; all others 1 or none. Brian Strong I doubt!
- (16): Mixed response, passes to WARP 21 tabulation.
- (17): Few real comments, mainly to the effect that they enjoyed the poll. Thanks.

The results to date look very interesting; I trust the final response will be more so. A second copy of the Orbiter/Poll is enclosed---for your reference, or you can return it if you lost the WARP 19½ copy of it (ask and I'll send you another sheet). Remember the Business Reply Coupons that came with WARP 19½? (Hint).

WARP 19½: In case some future historian is reading this, WARP 19½ ran to 122 copies all told, 117 of which were complete; 4 were complete except for the Dunedin in '82 flyer, while one was damaged (page 2) and also lacked the flyer. Almost all were distributed, except for damaged and records copies.

FANTASY FIGURINES: SF RANGE

Wargaming Miniatures

SF 1: Firecat Destroyer:	\$0.70
SF 2: Marauder Pursuit Ship:	\$0.70
SF 3: Mercury Scout/Messenger:	\$0.70
SF 4: Marauder Heavy Attack Fighter:	\$0.70
SF 5: Battle Cruiser (160 mm long):	\$5.00
SF 6: Centurion Heavy Destroyer:	\$3.00

CAST IN METAL--- POST FREE IN N.Z...

10 Farquhars Road, Christchurch 5, NZ.

CHRISTCHURCH BRANCH REPORT:

Meeting of 6th December 1980

Report from Lindsay Thompson.

After the usual formalities such as Corina Grennell's exhibitionism tendencies, we got down to some "really hard discussion" about the themes and ideas of the TV series that are showing at the moment. Much was said and most has been forgotten (especially the slander).

I gave a report on my recent trip to Wellington to meet some NASFans there, and I also gave the meeting an

explanation (of sorts) into role-playing games, my new miniatures, and I volunteered for the post of Secretary as Judith Yeatman could no longer fill that post due to other commitments (hence this new format, Greg). We had planned some months ago to go and see EMPIRE after our last meeting, and after the film we would have dinner. Yes folks! We done both! A great time was had by all.

Our reaction to EMPIRE was equal amongst all of us; we loved it!!! Me especially. The film brought tears to my eyes. The SFx were superb and I am at least going to see it time after time.

And Corina's exhibitionism? A pair of sunglasses that would put Elton John to shame, they were so large.

AUCKLAND BRANCH REPORT:

Meetings of December 7th and November 1980.

Compiled from Auckland Branch Newsletters sent by Nigel Rowe.

The Auckland Branch Lives! after a merger with The Martian Way Fan Association. The President is Nigel Rowe, with Margaret Lambert as Secretary/Treasurer.

November: Nine people attended, including Jeffrey Leddra & Gordon Heatt from other clubs. Attendees decided to merge NASF Branch and TMWFA until the end of February, and planning was started on activities for NorCon. DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS was then produced, and the game lasted 2 hours before being won by Joy Barnes. More wargaming meets are planned in future.

An outing to the Warkworth Earth/Satellite Station was mooted and received good support, so that Duncan Lucas is looking into the transport possibilities. An advertising campaign and poster are in the works.

December: This was the genuine bona fide AGM. 12 people attended, an all-time record for the last-2-years (at least). A book auction was started about 2 and finished around 4:30, with some 100 books being sold and realising \$73.00. The profit after expenses and payments was \$51, which was split evenly between NASF, TMWFA, and NorCon.

Then the AGM started, confirming the President & SecTreas and electing Duncan Lucas, Lisa Cherney, Margaret Lambert, and Nigel Rowe as Committee. Air time on Radio Pacific was discussed and may eventuate sometime.

According to their December Newsletter they had/have 8 paid-up members (but Debi Kean has renewed, so that's actually now 9, at least) then.

HOW CAN I KILL THE DEAD SPACES AT THE BOTTOM OF THESE PAGES? ---A Faned's Soliliquey

DUNEDIN BRANCH REPORT:

Meetings of 2/11/80, 12/11/80, and 7/12/80.

Reported by Tom Cardy and Rex Thompson.

Tom sent the November news, while Rex supplied the December information.

2 November: A general meeting with no definite program, advertised by word of mouth only. Harvey Kong Tin offered a surprise slide-show with emphasis on photos he took of THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK. A later discussion revolved around a float for the '82 Dunedin procession. We have suitable resources for such a project but to date have yet to get ourselves fully organised.

12 November: Our first feature-film showing in over a year, and the overall opinion was that it was very successful. Held in the large, centrally-located "Crypt" of St. Paul's Church, it attracted approximately 50 people (this is a little misleading as only 10 were NASF members of Dunedin's total of 20). In fact, we could have gained more if certain mundane events were not being held on this particular date---especially school 'prizegivings'. Advertising was extensive---newspapers, radio, and posters. As a consequence we have a slide appearing during the official opening and season of THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK in Dunedin.

We have gained several prospective members. From here we plan to show feature films on a regular basis---once a month---as long as it is affordable.

On top of it all, our infamous Questionnaire was distributed.

December: The film shown was WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE. Rex Thompson was told off to make up a list of films for future showings.

It was decided to hold no January meeting; however, the committee for DUNEDIN IN '82 (which virtually is the Dunedin Committee for NASF) National Convention bid will be meeting ((Did meet?)). February meeting to be held as planned.

WELLINGTON BRANCH REPORT:

Meetings of 16 November and 21 December 1980.

Reported by Greg Hills.

The Branch continues in health. The January meeting, after long and heated debate, has been cancelled because the date conflicted with the Science Fiction Film Festival (17--19 January, 1981). But the February meeting will be on the 15th of February, according to schedule.

November: Special outing to the Wellington Planetarium, where two displays were played through. The Space-wars one by Dave White was considerably changed over the version shown at WellCon B. About 25 people attended, all told: an average attendance, which we can beat if we want to (hint, hint). The meeting was adjudged very successful by those who attended.

December: No schedule except for refreshments. About 20 people turned up at various times, all told, but I'm not sure as I did not make my usual head-count. The Committee agreed not to hold a January meeting, and there was discussion of the programme for the coming year.

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK: A special outing to see TESB was held on 6th December and 27 people responded (two people who purchased tickets did not turn up, so the total interested contingent was actually 29). Terry Collister was down from Napier for the event. The impression the movie made on attendees was generally very favourable, which is no mean feat considering the critics who came along.

Special topics: If any Wellington member has a topic they would like to present to a meeting in 1981, they are invited to contact the Committee (in a pinch, ye ed's phone number is 894728). We are after a few more items such as Dave White's talk at one of the 1980 meetings.

Anyone heard the one about the young man who climbed out of bed at dawn and wrote the lady by him a note---"Will mademoiselle please excuse the poor man who, late yesterday night, wishing to abuse her, led her to this miserable lodging?"---and found, as a footnote to it in her hand, "I will wait for you at the same place. And believe me, your bed is the best I've ever been in."---Now that sf writer was Jules Verne (she was Maya Abanes)

-----Peter Graham.

NASF NATIONAL NEWS:

NASF NATIONAL NEWS

No real developments in the last two months. The National Committee considered and passed a proposal to send out a special issue of WARP (not at NASF expense) at the same time as it passed a proposal to add a multiple-subscriptions scheme to the roster of NASF services. WARP 19½ resulted, and also carried other time-valued material that had arrived since WARP 19.

A weather-eye has been kept on the Treasury. While it is holding out, and perhaps gaining very slightly, this cannot last. This means that we will possibly face another Dues increase---only very mild, this time (on the order of \$1.00)---at this year's AGM. NASF must have funds to manouvre with, and although auctions and similar activities may be held, Dues are the only way to get these funds. Meanwhile, inflation moves on and the effects of 1980's raise are beginning to wear off (that raise was, after all, mainly to offset the slippage of three years of low Dues). (It should be emphasised here that this report is only the editor's view, and does not necessarily represent Committee opinions).

A second-hand electrostencil device found in Auckland by Duncan Lucas is being bought by a consortium of Committee members, NASF, and the NZ Spaceflight Association. NASF's share is being put up by the Wellington Branch, which will be paid back by the National Treasury over several months. The share amounts to \$50.00. The machine is better than that being currently used for illustrations, and since it will be located in Wellington convenient to WARP's production site, will greatly ease the load and delays involved in production of WARP.

BUT THEY STILL MADE IT
TO NORCON '81



NORCON NEWS:

NORCON NEWS:

First, from Art Show Director Chris Morrin:

"Please Publish in WARP that an art-show is being organised for NORCON. Contributions will be accepted from now until a week before Queen's Birthday Weekend. They are to be sent to: CHRIS MORRIN,
FLAT 2, 621 REMUERA ROAD,
REMUERA, AUCKLAND."

From Duncan Lucas, word that memberships and bookings are starting to pour in now; that as advertised, the rates have risen as of 1st January---new rates \$18 attending and \$7 supporting. JOIN NOW for New Zealand's third and, from the sounds of things, soon-to-be largest and most-suscessful-ever science fiction Convention!

Time & date still set for 29th May -- 1st June, 1981, still to be held at the Auckland University. Norcon's address again: PO BOX 5651, WELLESLEY ST, AUCKLAND. Make cheques payable to 'NorCon' and cross 'not negotiable'.

WEB

by John Wyndham, reviewed by David Cropp.

Brian Aldiss once described John Wyndham as the master of the 'cosy catastrophe'--- that is, one where the hero has a girl, a free suite at the Savoy, and automobiles for the taking, while everyone else is dying off. In WEB, Wyndham's latest novel, published last year (ten years after his death) some elements of the cosy catastrophe certainly persist. The hero has a female companion---although not, it would appear in this case, for sexual purposes. They have a good supply of food and they manage quite well for comfortable accomodation---although not quite up to the standard of the Savoy. And everybody else certainly dies off---horribly and painfully.

REVIEWS
etc

WEB is set in an abortive attempt to start a utopian community on an uninhabited island in the mid-Pacific. The island---large and fertile---had been cleared of its population twenty years before the opening of the story because it had been exposed to fallout from a hydrogen bomb test. One of the results is the mutation of a species of spider---and that provides the theme and title of the book.

Wyndham intertwines the story of the lethal problems besetting the utopian settlers with the origin and consequences of a most un-Wyndham-like native myth. The myth is of a tabu imposed on the island for all time by one of its former inhabitants at the time when he was forced to leave it. In essence it forbade anyone from ever living on the island again, providing the most dire results to anyone attempting it: "He cursed (the island) from North to South and from East to West, from the tops of its twin hills to the edge of its low tide. He cursed its soil and its rocks, its hot springs and its cold springs; its fruits and its trees; all that ran or crawled on it, everything that jumped on it, or flew over it; the roots in its soil, the life in its rock pools. He cursed it by day and he cursed it by night, in the dry season and in the rainy season, in storm and in calm."

Strong stuff. And seemingly quite effective, for when the settlers arrive it is to discover that the island is overrun with billions of poisonous spiders. Whether they had been created by the curse or by the fallout is not made explicit.

The story is told by a middle-aged man, secretary to the organiser of the utopian community. He is a fairly typical Wyndham narrator---largely a cypher himself, but a good vehicle for the description of others' behaviour and opinions. His companion is a biologist, and we are treated at some length to a familiar Wyndham theme: the eternal competition between species and the probable transience of mankind's domination of the Earth. In WEB it is given with rather more biological sophistication than in some of Wyndham's earlier books and it includes one of the best arguments that I have ever read against conservationism.



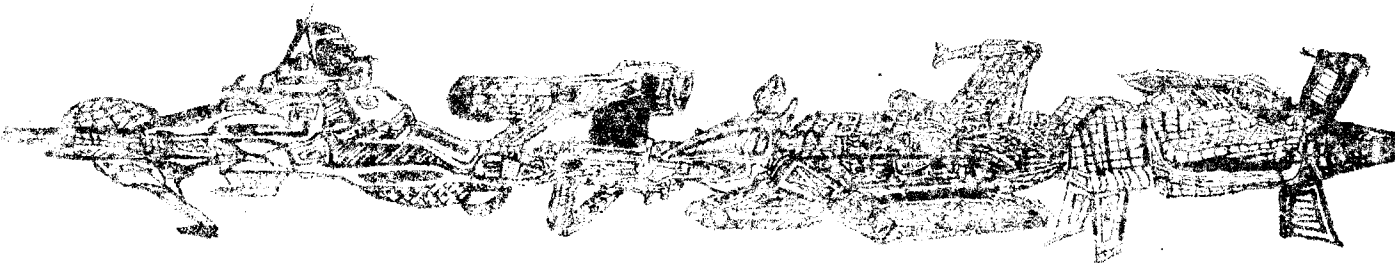
((Cropp WEB review cont'd)) It's those arguments, however, which are the main fault of the book. Wyndham, presumably, was trying to tell a story, not engage in long-winded philosophical disputation. There are pages and pages of it, and it hasn't been split into palatable lumps separated by action scenes in the style that justly made Wyndham regarded as being one of the best.

In fact the book gives the impression of being nothing but an early draft, with some notes. Apart from the discussion of the biological import of the events in the book there is, for example, a very long history of the island---far more than is relevant, and certainly far more than is interesting. Such a detailed history is necessary to an author as a way of knowing exactly what sort of place he is writing about, but they are usually pruned out of the final draft and a bit more balance given to the novel as a whole. I suspect, perhaps a little too cynically, that Wyndham's widow and agent discovered the draft novel and decided to publish it to capitalise on the name.

Still, there are flashes of the old, superbly readable Wyndham in WEB, and it has great potential to become a rattling good yarn someday. And no doubt every Wyndham freak like me will want to have it in their collection.

Penguin, 1979; \$3.50.

----- David Cropp.



A STONE IN HEAVEN

by Paul Anderson, reviewed by Trevor Gudsell.

A STONE IN HEAVEN is the latest and, supposedly, last book in the Flandry line. This may be just as well, for the books are becoming more and more monotonous in theme and content.

Many of Anderson's works, and most of his recent materials, fit into a future-history series that includes within itself the Polesotechnic League grouping and a number of other assorted books and stories. The series tracks human society over a period from the mid-22nd century up until 7100 AD (the novella STARFOG), and apart from the internal inconsistencies that are inevitable in a group of novels and stories written over many years of the writer's lifetime---1951 up to the present---presents a very complete and careful account of most of the major crisis-points.

The bulk of the series comprises the two groupings of the van Rijn-Polesotechnic stories and the Dominic Flandry-Empire stories. The two were originally effective counterweights to each other: the Polesotechnic tales covering growth and endless horizons, the Empire tales covering decadence, decline, and the fight against the Long Night (surely one of the most effective descriptive nouns ever devised).

Alas, as Anderson has grown older his visions have darkened and become more grim; the despair of the Flandry tales became more and more pre-eminant, and eventually leaked into even the Polesotechnic grouping (MIRKHEIM as an example). It could be argued that as the decline of the League is an area Anderson has previously left implied rather than shown, this is simply completing the picture; and this I grant. However, the equally barren period (filled with interesting events and clashes, surely?) around the foundation of the Terran Empire remains covered by only one book to the present: THE PEOPLE OF THE WIND (1973), and even this is set after the actual establishment and securing of the Empire. Only "Sargasso of Lost Starships" (1952)

and "The Star Plunderer" (1952)---neither of even novella-length---actually straddle the period. This implies a different complexion to Anderson's concentration on decline and coming darkness.

And so we come to A STONE IN HEAVEN---latest of the Flandry books in both publishorial and internal chronological order. Flandry has grown old and cynical in his fight to ward off the Long Night from the Terran Empire. More and more his mind is turning to snatching a last few adventures, a last bit of love and laughter (even though the final fall of the Empire is still several centuries ahead). But when he is approached by Miriam Abrams---nicknamed "Banner"---who seeks his help for a slowly glaciating world, and when he is simultaneously approached by the suspect Duke Edwin Cairncross of Hermes, and when he learns that there is a link between these two requests (Cairncross wants Flandry to head a Commission of Inquiry intended to clear Cairncross's name of any suspicion of disloyalty to the shaky Emperor), his old proclivities reassert themselves.

The book is tight and well told in most ways; Anderson is not yet losing his grip on the ability to tell a good-boned yarn... And yet, this is a minor book; a mere time-marker. It advances the future-history not at all, it tells us nothing of Flandry beyond what we have already seen in the previous books, and Anderson's control of characterisation is as feeble as ever. His characters, even when they are laughing, are not human; they are more like humanised characters drawn from high fantasy epics. To put it bluntly, they take themselves and their lives far too seriously.

The edition I have read is the illustrated mass-paperback edition. Apart from the fact that details are often inconsistent from illustration to illustration, and the usual incidence of repeats, the pictures are reasonably well-handled and there are new ones appearing right up to the moment Flandry and Abrams saunter off into the ~~sky~~ forest.

In all, this book is excellent science fiction, minor Anderson, and a reasonably enjoyable read. If only I didn't get this feeling of deja vu over the end-of-the-universe theme!

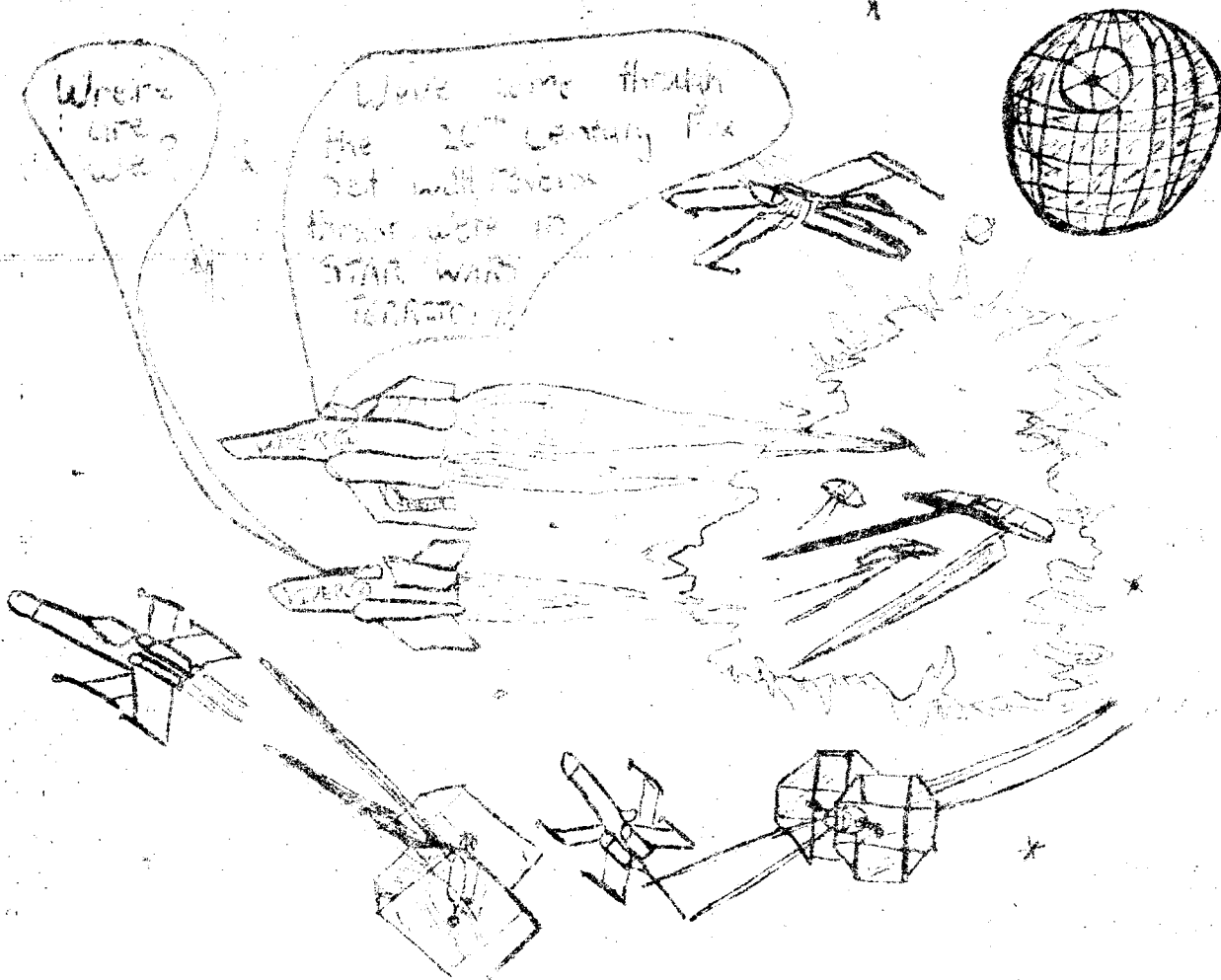
Ace Illustrated edition, 1980; US\$2.50; 234 pages, plus a 19-page small-print section by Sandra Meisel on the Future-History. ----- Trevor Gudsell.

(Article 1): MODEL-BUILDING: THEORETICAL BASICS
an article by Lindsay Thompson. First of several planned.

So you want to build miniatures, eh? OK! Go out and buy a model, take it home, and build it. Then come back and finish the article. Unless you are a natural modeller (the chance is 1:1000000) the finished article will be an abomination. I don't mean to sound rude, but you lack the skills of a modeller that can take a lifetime to acquire.

As this is intended to be a series of articles, this being the first, I suppose I had better give you some credentials.

First and foremost I am dedicated to modelling and miniatures. This is ^{the} most important feature about anything you devote your life to. Dedication. Without it you will never really reach the top in any field of endeavour.. Secondly, I have immeasurable patience when it comes to modelling. Another key feature. Thirdly, in my local modelling society (the Chch Military Modelling Society, Inc) I have been awarded the Master Modeller's Certificate, which places me in the top bracket of our society. This, apart from the President's Trophy for the model at the Show, is what all modellers in our society strive for. Fourthly, I have over thirteen years of experience at scale modelling flying models, radio-controlled and manufactured, behind me. I am 23 years old, own my own modelling studio, and believe that if we all devote our lives to world peace then we can do it. Live in peace and reach for the stars. And lastly, I have a dream that I am striving for. I want to make models commercially. And that dream, folks, is not far from coming true.



"Without knowledge man is nothing. With it he is nothing. To use it he has learned, and to have learned he has knowledge." (Thompson, 1980)

"Reading is key to all learning," one of my teachers told our class. We thought him a fool but this fool taught me to love books. I am eternally grateful to him. Where is this leading, one may ask. To the key-note of this exercise. As most of you are probably non-modellers and have little knowledge at modelling some may want to know more about the subject so here are a few books I recommend to you without hesitation.

HOW TO GO PLASTIC MODELLING. Chris Ellis. Patrick Stevens publications. From start to finish this book is loaded with information about everything you wish to know on basic modelling techniques. The most ideal book for the experienced and beginner alike.

THE SCALE MODELLERS HANDBOOK. Chris Ellis. Hamlyn Publications. This definitive work is jam-packed with generalisations. Although it is aimed more as a consolidation medium for the more advanced modeller, no beginner should really be without it. This prolific English modeller/author is probably one of the best-known, and offers good sound advice on modelling.

FAMOUS SPACE-SHIPS OF FACT AND FANTASY AND HOW TO MODEL THEM. Kalmbach Books. (Whitcoulls may have it). This book hits right at the heart of sf modelling. If you can get it, do so! You won't be disappointed. Black and white and colour photographs and easily-understood script makes this book stand out. As I have said before, get it. Order it if you have to.

(article continued overleaf)

There are a variety of modelling magazines on the market today dealing with everything from military modelling to modelling cars. *MILITARY MODELLING* is very good, as is *SCALE MODELS*, although the purchaser should buy only for his intended needs.

Start modelling with easy-to-assemble kit-sets the "get the hang" of techniques, ideas etc. Some kits can be a real pitfall for the inexperienced and may even put off an unwary modeller-to-be for life. But if you stick at it, as in most things you do, you should come through in the end.

Before I go! Join your ^{local} modelling club. How? Ask at a model shop. If they don't know, ask around.

-----Lindsay Thompson.

*SUPERMAN II, or,
"The Rest of Superman I". Reviewed by Greg Hills.*

((Since no-one else did so---evidently in disgust---it is left to me to talk about this effort. An unenviable task..))

Music pounded through the theatre as scene flickered after scene in the swiftly unrolling masterpiece. The audience were thrilled, their critical aptitudes completely disarmed by the display of magnificent cinema perfection.

The above sentence this film was not, except perhaps in its ghodawful pretentiousness. Instead the viewers were first treated to a long, too long 'update' on what happened in the first film. As someone who did not see *SUPERMAN I*, I was therefore left more than somewhat irritated by the fact that all this busy stuff told me nothing at all about *SUPERMAN I*, and certainly did not leave me panting for *SUPERMAN II*.

After that, allegedly, the film really began. Actually I could hardly tell the difference between the series of vignettes that make up the bulk of the first half of *SUPERMAN II*, and the update on *SUPERMAN I*. George Floratos and Gary Perkins were actually forced to tell me what was going on.

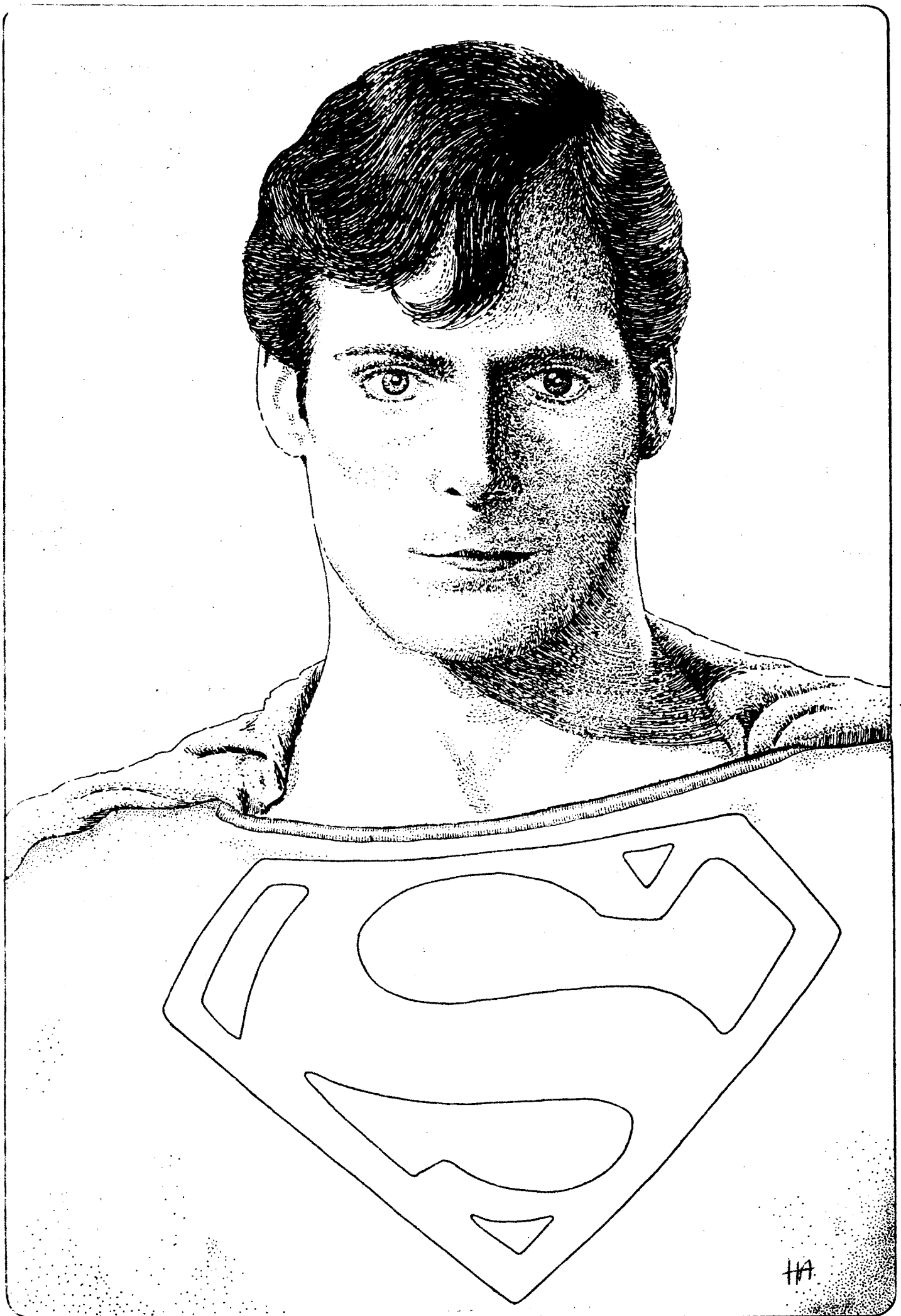
Somehow the collection of unconnected fragments eventually culminated in Superman deciding that he must marry Lois Lane. Apparently the scriptwriters have read Niven's speculations on Spuerman's sex-life, and they wisely decided to insert a scene where his powers are stripped from him through the forethought of his parents, who thought he might someday fall in love with 'a mortal'. Unfortunately, the powers are removed "forever"---is this the end for Superman? What will happen next?

What happens next is that the main part of the film---what might properly be called *SUPERMAN II*, in fact---begins with the arrival of some baddies who were locked into the Phantom Zone at the beginning of the movie.

Superman and Lois learn of this just after a bully-truck-driver beats up on the powerless Superman, trampling his male pride---not to mention other parts of his anatomy---into the floorboards. Forgetting his recent humiliation, Superman immediately vows he must return to his Fortress of Solitude to attempt to recover his powers in order to defeat the monace of the three super-powered Kryptonian villains. End scene with Superman tramping through the arctic wastes, eventually to reach the FOS and start looking.

Next scene, the baddies proceed to take over the Earth. After a while Lex Luthor gets in touch with them and tells them about Superman. The villains set out to force this "Superman" into the open. They appear at the Daily Planet, causing much disruption to the deadlines---it is a good question whether Perry White was upset more by this intrusion or by the manhandling he received. The villains stand around making threats and casually showing off their powers. This leads up to the perfect entrance line, which brings Superman onstage, floating just outside White's window.

"Having escaped from the black hole I'd fallen into, I went on to beat the baddies..."



HA

FINAL NOTES (Continued from Page 22)

MORE DELAYS! (February) -- All set to roll. The last electrostencil is placed on the machine, the last original is placed beside it... The knob is turned, the engine hums into life... And the drum, like the Millenium Falcon, fails to turn.

Yeah, the Gestefax befuddled itself---we believe it to be a bearing, in the motor amature. I wanted to post this mass of paper on the 11th of February. That date has been regressed to the 12th---aklowing time to do the last stencil with Armstrong & Springhall (at their hideous charges). ==

This, and the stencil that could not be electro'd, are all that remain unprinted. FISSION CHIPS is collated & ready. The addresses would be ready by posting time except we wasted about four hours poking around inside the Gestefax.

If any NASF magazine could be said to be haunted---this is the issue...

REGISTER OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES...

George Floratos' grandfather passed away on the 5th of February. WARP extends its sympathies to NASF's Treasurer in his period of mourning.

Ex-NASF President Bruce Ferguson & wife, Robyn, celebrate the birth in December of their daughter Victoria. Congratulations to all.

IN MEMORIUM: The following members have fallen...

Albert Jackson, 10-80; Ian Munro, 10-80; Kevin Bourne, 10-80; Brian Piper, 10-80; Ian Davies, 11-80; Chris Blowes, 10-80; Allan Thompson, 8-80(!); Owen Kreft, 10-80(!); Alister Rutledge, 9-80; Jill Gilmore, 10-80; ~~and~~ Zak Reddan, 8-80(!); Todd Webley, 8-80(!); Jon Pheloung, 10-80.

No, I don't know where those 8-80 people came from, either. Actually, most of the above fell at New Year or before. There is a delay factor between nonrenewal and this 'missing in action' list.

CONGRATULATIONS TO... The following new members and renewals.

NEW MEMBERS: Michael O'Reilly; Alan Robson; Roy Philburn; Kevin Clewss; Anne McLean; Tamsin Ruffell; Deborah Ruffell.

RENEWALS: Vera Lonergan; John W Lee; Margaret Lambert; Rick Buttle; Brian Strong.

And HEY, YOU\$ to: The following are reminded their Dues are Due...

JANUARY: Lisa Cherney; Graham Turner; David Cropp; Nicholas Smid.

DECEMBER: Terry Collister; L G Rumsey. (These 6: W20 is your last WARP till you renew)

FEBRUARY: Robert Fowles; Peter Kayne. MARCH: Nigel Rowe; John A Mitchell; Harvey Kong Tin; Alex Heatley; J Higgins; Andrew Vignaux; Gavin Woodward.

Reminders for you will be in WARP 21 (just to warn you...)

NASF needs members---~~members/need/NASF~~ or we are crippled. Hence I am putting all this renew ~~of~~ hype here. NASF tends to 'gain three, lose two' (and since the last Dues raise, gain three, lose three & a half). I want to even the odds a little...

By the way, if you are mis-listed here (or even miss-listed when you should have been), please drop us a line.

S T A N Z A Notices... From Australia, news of MEDTREK '82

Venue: Blue Mountains, Sydney, at the Hydro-Majestic. \$ COST:

Date: 2nd Weekend in February, 1982.

\$65.00 -- \$70.00 shared.

\$75.00 -- \$80.00 shared.

This includes accommodation Friday night to Sunday noon, plus meals.

If interested, please contact C.T.Berriman, 226 Sutherland Road, Lyall Bay, WGTN.3.

N.B.: If enough (approx. 12) people are interested, we may be able to obtain group rates for air-fares.

Christine Berriman.

David Harvey
PO Box 21113
Auckland 8.

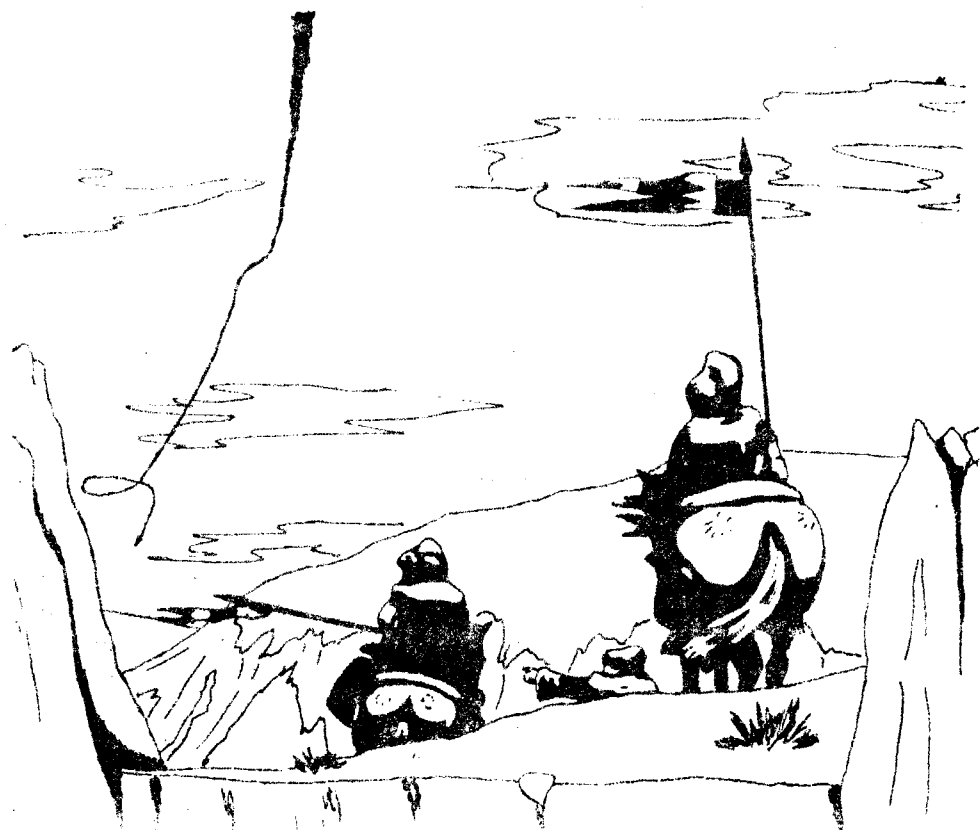
((From a dupletter he sent out to friends due to press of other matters)): I have been in a state of self-imposed exile from the sf community from about May of this year and missed the Con at Wellington. The latter defalcation was as a result

of a trip to Melbourne, and my general inactivity has been as a result of my participation in Mastermind. Let me explain.

I entered Mastermind as a bit of a laugh, having watched previous series and having displayed a little skill in the answering general knowledge questions. My wife it was who suggested entering, saying "You could do Lord of the Rings or something like that." So away I went. The study that I did for the audition consisted of reading the book through and making a few cryptic notes which covered about 3 pages of foolscap. When I was accepted for the show, I read the book twice more and made some more notes, dipped into Foster's concordance, and rejected the appendices. Out of 23 questions asked, I scored 17---which, with the 14 in general knowledge, got me to the semi-final with 31.

For the semifinal I had in mind to do the Wars of the Roses as a specialist topic, but abandoned that when I found out that it had been done in the series being shown..I opted for the Third Crusade, 1188--1192 (Richard vs. Saladin) and managed to get 16 specialist and 9 general knowledge to get into the final. I decided to return to LOTR and read the book and appendices 4 more times, set myself 1760 of which at competition time I was able to answer 1754 and of which 6 came up in the competition in ~~sha~~ some shape or form. I must confess that it was never my expectation to win, and I was most surprised to score 18 in specialist and 12 in general knowledge, to win with 30. The next contestant was 25. I must say that it does give me some pleasure to be NZ Mastermind in LOTR. I invite anyone to try and do better, for I am sure that there are many who could but let me issue this caveat: Lord of the Rings was done in 1979 by Bunny Rigold. It was done twice by myself, and Lord of the Rings questions were asked of Blake Shorthouse (who came second) when he did Tolkien's fiction for his elimination. None of those questions---like who danced the springle-ring at Bilbo's party---will ever be asked again, so consequently the questions in future will be fairly sophisticated. Also, there is the possibility that I will be setting them so I can make a promise that they will be challenging.

When I go to the UK next year I will not be competing in the International for it will not be held, due to problems inside the BBC. I must say that the thought of answering questions set by Professor Christopher Tolkien is a bit daunting, but I hope, as a result of contacts with the Tolkien Soc in the UK that I will meet GJRT and see what further Middle-earth things are in the pipeline. Also I hope to see JRRT's office at Merton and the cubicle where he and C S Lewis drank on Thursdays...



I am delighted to hear that there are proposals for a Tolkien society in New Zealand. If there is anything that I can do to help it get off the ground, I shall be only too glad to help. I have offered my services to NORCON to do a piece on LOTR & have a number of articles in the pipeline on the subject. I take as a major premise at all times that LOTR and THE SILMARILLION are literature and will dispute the matter with anyone at any place. The choice of weapons will be mine, together with mithril mail, Anduril, and an unlimited supply of athelas (*asea aranion* or *kingsfoil* depending on your source of origin).

#####@#####

Elizabeth Gardner
56 Weston Avenue
Palmerston North.

((From her renewal letter)): Humble apologies. Is it that time of year already? Doesn't time fly & the bills flood in. Overseas tripping is expensive, especially when you try to buy next year's wardrobe all in one go!

Thanks for WARP & TANJENT. I actually managed to read them immediately. The number of frisbees I've been getting from Aussie has got me reading fan literature with a compulsive greed.

Know you'll enjoy THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK. ((We did---almost 30 strong)) I dragged my mother (STAR WARS fan) to it when we were in Sydney. Very recommendable! Although like all such things, opinions vary wildly. My 1st night in Perth ((for SWANCON 5, 1980 Aussie NatCon)) I was trapped at the same table with Vera Lonergan (against) and Shayne Mc Cormack (for). Whew!

#####@#####

Terry Jeeves
230 Bannerdale Rd
Sheffield S11 9FE
GREAT BRITAIN.

WARP 19...superb cover art...even if I haven't the least interest in Wonder Woman (apart from coveting fun and games with her chassis). Liked the here-and-there short paragraphs and interspersed illos style of the zine. Much more informal and chatty and makes it seem more friendly.

Anne McCaffrey has surely written more than three Dragondross stories? Without looking at my files I feel sure there have been ones of them...some aimed at a lower age-group than the earlier ones which were pitched for five-year-olds. After Dragondross we shall no doubt get Dragondrek, then Dragonslush, and eventually the collective title for the whole series...Dragonshit. There's some subjective opinion for you, Greg. ((Bite your tongue, thou scutulous knave! A fire-lizard has been dispatched with full load of firestone. Try typing with a lump of fused clinker...))

#####@#####

Debbie Killop (ex Kean)
PO Box 4406
Auckland.

Sincere thanks for the WARP and TANJENT. I am truly thrilled at your thoughtfulness and the re-appearance of TANJENT. I must show Lee, my flatmate, what fandom can do. I've failed to lure him along to Millennium as he thinks it is a brains trust, and in spite of being two thirds of the way to a B.Sc. degree he has no confidence in his intelligence.

There should be a short piece on time-travel enclosed with this, written with the help of a telephoned discussion with Peter ((Graham)). My mother died two months ago, and when we were sorting-out after the funeral, we found "Time and the Conways", the Priestley play I mention, and I took it---haven't read it yet, I still feel a bit too sad.

I am giving up my married name, and taking the name of Killop as a surname (my paternal grandmother's). Haven't notified the bank yet...but could you change my NASF membership? Also put the relevant paragraph of this in WARP? Thanks. It is a legal change, by advertisement not deed-poll.

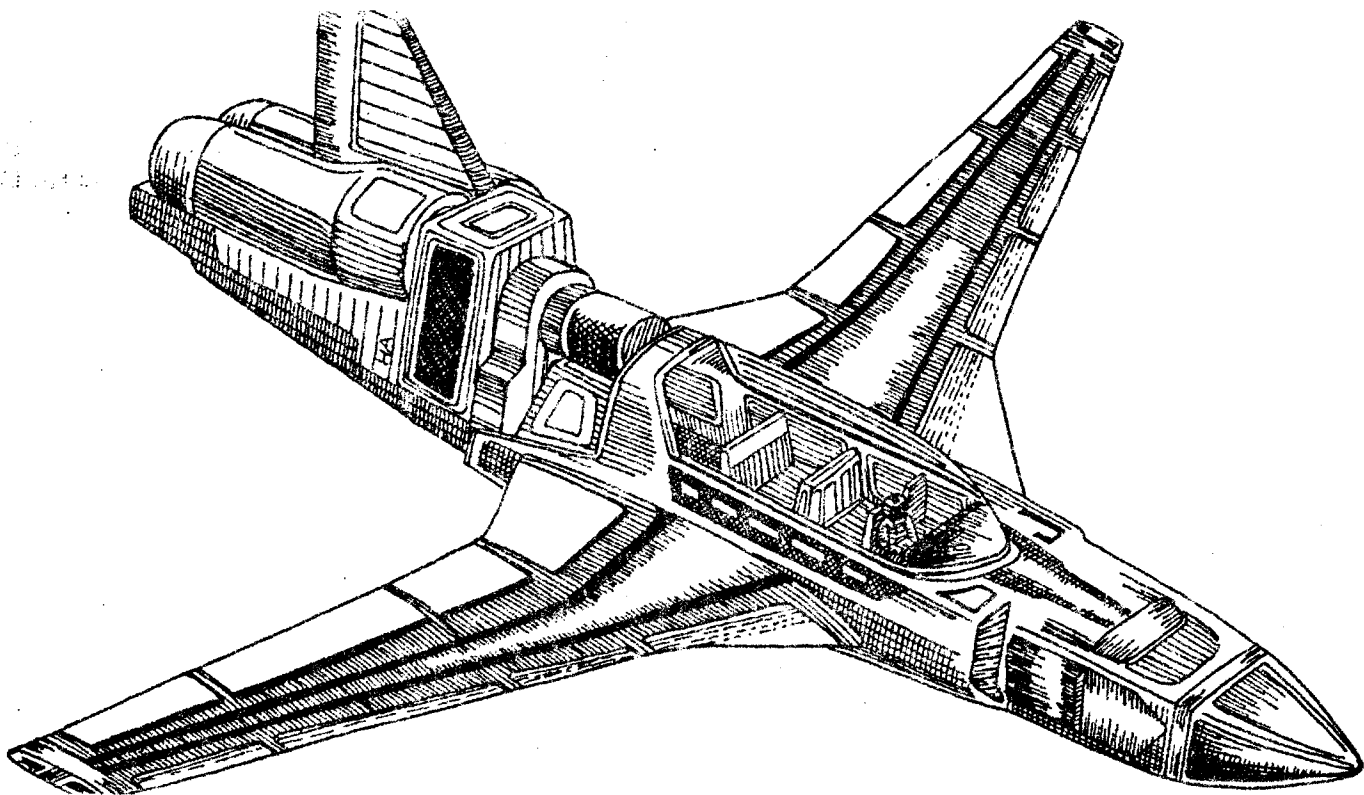
Think that's the lot, but for a LOC, which I'll do, as they say, under separate cover...

((Which you didn't. Tch. Welcome back to NASF after your troubles. The time travel piece will be in WARP 21. NASF members with Lists to note name-change.))

#####@#####

LATEST STAR WARS RUMOUR!!

Reliable sources report that Princess Leia has been heard as saying that she will "wait forever for the man I love"! More news later...



Tim Jones
Flat 3, 317 High St
Dunedin.

I've just received WARP 19½---nice to receive a 'bonus' like this---and was particularly interested in your closing comments on "the Hreat Editor Debate". Since you say this correspondence is closed, I won*t dwell on this except to say that

you've greatly improved WARP but could perhaps have been rather less secretive about your courses of action. ((Yes, the subject is closed. But if I'd not been secretive my efforts would have had far less effect. I'd have boosted my personal popularity, perhaps, but to the detriment of the zine. Instead people sat down and said "right, I'll fix you", and some "fixed me" by sending in high-quality contributions while others did it by screaming blue murder at me))

Instead, now things have simmered down a little, I'd like to bring up the topic of fiction in fanzines again.

As a (far too occasional) story-writer, who in my own estimation is still well short of the standard needed to make pro- or semi-pro submissions of material with any chance of success, I believe the fanzines are a natural outlet for my talents(!). As neither NOUMENON nor TANJENT appear to encourage fiction, and most of the other NZ fanzines are too small or irregular for anything of reasonable length, one is essentially left with WARP and the new NASF publication, FISSION CHIPS, and Frank's THEMEZINE. This latter is an exciting venture and I hope it succeed, but the fees for publication of anything substantial may prove rather too steep for many of the younger writers. I'm therefore hoping that FISSION CHIPS will, with its less time-critical contents (which should allow consultative editing) foölow a policy of including and soliciting fiction, leaving WARP to cover other areas. I believe that you and Tom between you can find a place in the NASF magazines for fan fiction.

((Okay, consider the idea floated. There were several reasonable-quality stories submitted this year---the winner should be here in WARP 20---for a mere story contest. I'll be passing most of them down to Tom if he'll take them. If not, perhaps an irregular NASFzine could take them to readers. I don't so much discourage fiction as prefer people try it on prozines---they being a little less inclined to send the writer epistles with "polite euphemisms" for their opinions about each story.))

#####

SHOCK -- HORROR!

NEWS -- NEWS -- NEWS!

Princess Leia today ran off with Chewbacca. Our sources state she left a note to say she loved him and that they would soon marry.

Bruce Ferguson
5 Helena Road
Hamilton.

What's this about WARP 19? We get nasty letters from certain
fen about females adorning the covers of our zine, and then
you continue the practise. I see it is one of the covers from
my days at WARP---ISN'T ANYONE SENDING IN ANY NEW COVERS???

C'mon artists---Greg may be forced to rely on his own artwork for future covers---
I believe me that is even less desirable than having him fill the magazine with his
written work!! ((er...I think I have just been insulted...perhaps...but actually, the
cover situation is not quite so drastic for now, after the boost from the Story
Contest. But WARP can always use good covers, soo...))

I do notice a new Gnome cartoon on the editorial page of WARP 19. So Tom is still
brave enough to keep sending them in? Does he know the editorship has changed?

The movie previews were excellently timed. Both well-written and they presented
their opinions well. A review of any sort is opinion, but a good review includes
enough facts and details to interest the reader. These both did.

You provided an excellent summary of the works of James Hogan. It will be inter-
esting to see what his next few novels are about.

Keith provided an interetsing look at micro-computers. With this subject, it is
easy to write for the layman or to write for the technical expert. Keith's fell some-
where in the middle. Computer applications have become such a vast entity that it is
difficult to deal with them easily. I will be interested to hear other members
opinions about the article ((So will I!))

From Frank's article about Anne McCaffrey's visit, it sounds like the same sub-
jects got talked about at the Auckland and Wellington meetings. Despite what Vera
says, I found Anne as friendly and interesting as the Haldemans.

David Cropp summed up the writers panel at Unicon IV nicely.

I have read Debi's and Frank's stories in their original form, and I can't detect
where the surgery took place. I do remember that both stories did have a lot more
detail than was printed, but after over twelve months since seeing them, I can't
guess where. ((Frank's lost a Prologue; Debi's lost about 2/3 of the paragraph
beginning "We must each do what we can..."))

So---some people think that there is too much Greg Hills in WARP? In my opinion
all the GH material printed is good WARP stuff. An editor may contribute to his own
magazine. I tried to avoid to, but when I had an awkward space to fill... I can
verify your comments that WARP has plenty of junk fiction. Lengthy fiction takes up
a lot of space, and when it is boring members are being let down. Topical reviews and
articles, along with letters, make up a bulk of WARP. More of these are needed.
Letters appear often and are always good for a giggle. It is always funto print a
Lucascommunication or a Pope John XX Edict. Sadly, Greg Hills can no longer send in
letters, but then, you now have an editorial so you do get to say as much as ever.

On the whole, WARP 19 was adequate. As good as previous issues. ((I'll Ghod will
get you for that!))

Wotz this? WARP goes fractional? I didn't believe it when I saw WARP 19½. A bit
of newz and a few adz and that was it. I settled down with coffee and CONSEQUENCES
on the turntable and found a 45 (if I had any) would suffice. Get on with WARP 20!!

Have included my answer to the questionnaire as requested.

#####@#####

That's funny---I never knew this was a lino-type machine! --- a faned's soliliquey.

Keith Smith
42 R.D. Waitara
Waitara Road
Taranaki.

I'll be in Wellington for the week 25th--30th January and will
be at the Shaw Savill Hotel. Are there any NASF activities
scheduled for that period? I'm down to attend an advanced
programming course at Hewlett-Packard. Do you know the best
way of getting ffom Kilbirnie to Willis Street (ie Huysers,
the Planetarium, etc) please. I don't know the area too well. ((No, no NASF stuff
scheduled for that period---we thought of holding anhousewarming at 256 Adelaide Road,
but that will probably be put back to middle or late February. But your visit will
be history by the time this sees print!))

Hope you make it to Denvention II.

I read your review of James Hogan's works (WARP 19) with interest as he's one
of my favourite writers. I'm just curious to find out what had you shouting "NO!" and

"You can't DO that!" in INHERIT THE STARS. However, I agree with you when you say it is his best book to date. (To give examples here would take too long; it really needs a later review. But basically he had this infuriating way of taking perfectly normal, mundane 'facts' and twisting them till they fitted the story...and he did it so well that although I could see it couldn't be done, within the frame of the story it damwell could by done. And was!))

#####@#####

Quote from the "Journal of Xenobiology" Vol XXV No.5:

"One interesting fact about the long-lived wookies is that they come into heat only once every hundred years..."

((SUPERMAN II Review continued from page 12))

"Having escaped from the black hole I'd fallen into, I went on to beat the bad-dies..."---no, black holes do not figure in SUPERMAN II; nonetheless, I do question the exact manner in which Superman recovers his powers. I question it because it is never shown nor explained...

And so the movie, after a needlessly prolonged fight scene in which Coca-Cola signs figured, no doubt to the benefit of that drink's sales-figures, grinds on towards a conclusion of sorts. And oh, yes, as Clark Kent he later turns up at a certain eat-house and beats up a certain truckie.

I think that SUPERMAN and SUPERMAN II are more nearly a single gigantic movie than two separate movies; and quite frankly, neither possesses much appeal beyond the special effects and the beat-em-up action. Furthermore, the gigantic movie does not seem over; maybe SUPERMAN III...?

I cannot recommend this piece of tripe. It ranks barely above THE BLACK HOLE and SATURN THREE among the movies I have seen recently. Oh, and having now seen it, I would also rank it above ALIEN.

-----Greg Hills.

A RECANTATION: Another from

Alex Heatley
43 Melbourne Road
Wellington 2

I wish to apologise for my comments about your editorial decision to print letters by Frank Macskasy jr.

I was not aware that due to a lack of publishable letters you preferred to publish Frank's letters instead of the trash you received from members of NASF. As I have nothing against Frank, merely a desire to let some fresh blood be seen in the lettercol, I will continue to write letters which I hope will be published in lieu of Frank's letters. I hope to do this until someone else finds my letters boring and complains, at which point I'll stop provided that they start writing letters to WARP. Let's get some zest into the letter col!!

WARP is becoming as interesting as a Parliamentary debate on fish-heads. Greg has done what he can with the rest of the magazine (and a damn good job he has done, too) but the lettercol is up to the members of NASF. Write letters if you don't want to write reviews or articles! Put something in WARP. It's your magazine; don't let entropy increase in your direction. Heat can pass from cooler to hotter if you use that mass of brain cells in your heads.

And join the "Stamp out Frank Macskasy jr's Boring letters" club. Don't let the boring old farts take over!

((I think this could be called "assault and buttery"? As to "trash", perhaps I should point out that that refers to the letters I didn't print. And I'll also point out that I didn't find Frank's letters bad...))

#####@#####

I've got them one, two, three, four, occupational space-filling blues! -----A F's S.

BOOK BUYING DISCOUNTS!

Negotiations with Huyser's have finally borne fruit. A long time ago, back when NASF was first founded, a discount of 10% was sought and granted. Alas, response to and use of the discount was thunderously poor. Eventually it was withdrawn.

Huyser now offers N ASF members (only) a 5% discount on all purchases, or 10% if you are buying over \$30.00 worth at once (he has lay-by and 'credit' terms: your editor buys, for example, on credit. Purchases are entered on a card and I pay when I can afford to, as much as I want to pay).

This discount may be raised to a flat 10% on all purchases---if response seems to make it worthwhile. So if buying from HUyser, quote your name & membership number to receive 5 or 10% discount automatically.

AN OFFICIAL REPORT ON THE FAILURE OF THE 1981 SF FILM FESTIVAL!

by Alex Heatley & Roland Sapsford.

The Executive Committee of the Science Fiction Film Festival Society (Inc) feels obliged to offer an explanation for the unforeseen cancellation of the Film Festival, which was to be held on Wellington Anniversary Weekend at the Penthouse Theatre.

The events leading up to the cancellation of the FF can be traced to the very conception of the idea some 9 months ago, in May 1980 at WellCon B. This short period of time was in itself a major problem, as we were later to discover. We were faced with the task of, in 9 short months, starting from scratch the organisation required to hold a Festival. Inexperienced as we were in the field of business, and buoyed by an initial show of enthusiasm by the con attendees, we believed that such a feat was possible. This was, above all, our major error.

However, given this, a whole string of delays, miscalculations, and misunderstandings contributed to the demise of an otherwise promising idea.

The immediate problem facing the committee was a venue. However, it was suggested that the University (Victoria) might be interested in holding a SF Film Festival as part of their extramural activities. But when we approached them we were informed that they had no interest in such an activity. Undeterred by this, we decided to contact the University Memorial Theatre privately.

At this point we were faced with our first compromise: a date-change due to the fact that the Theatre was otherwise engaged over Waitangi Day Weekend. Hasty studies of booking charts & diaries revealed another available date: Wellington Anniversary Weekend. This fait accompli was to linger on as an albatross around

our necks, long after we had finished dealing with the Memorial Theatre.

At this time we were faced with two problems: incorporation, which was to remain a major problem over the following months, and finance. The Memorial Theatre had presented us with an estimate which would have easily solved NASA's budgetary problems. Despite the enormity of their quotes, we were optimistic of success and were happily throwing around budgets of \$5000 or more! All this assumed our multifarious problems and delays would disappear in plenty of time.

Primarily we were hamstrung by delays in becoming incorporated; the legal niceties meant we were unable to undertake any action with regard to advertising and/or booking until we were (to boldly split infinitive no man has plit before).

At about this time (September) with our rules being scrutinised by a friendly lawyer, whom incidentally we gratefully thank for his efforts, a chance encounter

between our Chairman and a member of an organisation dealing with NZ Films (henceforth to be known as "Z") occurred.

This person made known to our Chairman several important facts: namely the illegality of undertaking any advertising or negotiations until we were incorporated, the inability of the Memorial Theatre to open to the public under present laws, and the possibility of obtaining a better deal costwise by dealing with the Paramount Cinema. This led us to press ahead with incorporation, which finally came through towards the end of October. We also undertook to deal with Paramount, as time and financial constraints were beginning to make themselves apparent.

Looking back with 20-20 hindsight, we should have considered calling the venture off at this point, but we were still confident that with only three months left we could nonetheless succeed. Having been taking under the auspices of "Z", a major delay arose from our negotiator awaiting the (quote) right psychological moment to approach the owner of the Paramount Theatre (unquote). Consequently we were unable to produce meaningful publicity at any stage of the early phases of negotiation. It follows logically from this that our finances did not improve significantly (if at all) over this period of time (Nov-Dec).

Because of uncertainty as to our legal standing, and delays in finalising our offer to the Paramount, the lack of publicity continued longer than necessary. Burdened as we were by a shortage of details, when our first publicity (a poster) did appear, it contained little in the way of facts. The response was minimal.

We were eventually able to produce a list of films from which those to be shown at the Festival would be chosen, and with this in mind we produced our first newsletter, TANSTAFF 1, in early December. Despite attempted pressuring of "Z" we were unable to procure any further information and thus were forced to issue "T" despite a lack of available data. Although it was sent to all WellCon B attendees, we were unable to elicit any significant response from the fen of New Zealand.

Despite this initially promising start, things went rapidly downhill from here.

Bookings began to filter through, causing some anxiety about our financial situation; however, with seemingly unshakeable faith we continued to hang on, hoping that some minor deity would smile upon us at the eleventh hour. Indeed, we were just about to sacrifice Dave White when, two weeks before the Festival was due to commence, our reticent negotiator finally confirmed the venue and 8 out of the 12 films to be shown. Having received twenty-one bookings at this stage, we decided to attempt one last blaze of publicity. Flying in the face of providence and monumental apathy, we sent TANSTAFF 2 out to the fen of New Zealand as WELLCON B NEWSLETTER Number 5, for which we owe grateful thanks to Greg Hills. This, unlike the US Cavalry, arrived too late. Things, including "Z" and the fen of Godzone, were still closed down for the New Year.

In early January, about a week before the Festival, the owner of the Theatre was, due mainly to contractual misunderstandings, expecting \$1500 from the Society which, because of low bookings, we could not, to put it mildly, afford. We, however, were unaware of this and continued to do our utmost with limited information, to persuade the public to attend.

Some five days before the Festival was due to commence, we were contacted by "Z" enquiring as to the whereabouts of our money. After hurried consultation it was realised that a misunderstanding had occurred and, with a phone-call, the Festival was off. In a last-ditch attempt to rescue things we decided to approach the Theatre-owner directly. However, when we arrived at the Paramount we were informed he would not be in that night: he arrived some 2 minutes after we left and spent the ensuing period calling off the Film Festival, so that when we finally reached him the following afternoon we were some twelve hours too late.

That is it, there is no more. We arise undaunted, if a little financially tender, and will continue to provide a service to New Zealand Fandom. Thus our story ends; we leave it to posterity to judge us.

Alex Heatley Andrew Vignaux
Roland Sapsford David White.

((Enough post-mortems; however, I do feel the real fault and problem was not so much any of those listed, but that of allowing the whole thing to get out of the S3FS's hands and beyond its control. A smaller, less extravagantly planned Film Fest (maybe held in a Hotel---almost as good as a professional Theatre, but about 1/3 to 1/4 the cost) would have (a) been less likely to make a loss; (b) have allowed plenty of slack in the matter of attendance levels; (c) allowed earlier advertising as you'd have had control of your own films; (d) supplied ready accomodation for out-of-towners.))

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE FICTION

SECTION ONE---Name of the Association

- (a) The name of this association shall be the National Association for Science Fiction and will be hereinafter referred to as the Association.

SECTION TWO---The Aims of the Association

- (a) To provide an organisation through which science fiction enthusiasts in New Zealand may become known to each other.
- (b) To provide a magazine through which matters relating to science fiction and the science fiction-related interests of members of the Association can be presented and displayed.
- (c) To carry out such science fiction-related activities as its resources will allow, that will be of benefit and/or of interest to its members.

SECTION THREE---National Committee Structure

- (a) The executive and administrative centre of the Association shall be in the New Zealand city area that provides the majority of national committee members.
- (b) Should the centre be relocated, arrangements for the transfer of office and of all financial and physical resources shall be made by the current committee before they relinquish office.
- (c) A committee of not less than six officers, which shall include a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) In the event of there being no-one willing to take office as Secretary or Treasurer, the duties if necessary shall be shared among the committee.
- (e) The national committee shall remain in office until the end of the Annual General Meeting.
- (f) The quorum for a national committee meeting shall be four attending committee members.
- (g) National committee voting shall be by show of hands.
- (h) The President shall have a casting vote.

SECTION FOUR---National Committee Powers and Duties

- (a) The national committee may co-opt members as additional committee members as it sees fit.
- (b) Co-opted members are to have the same voting rights and privileges as elected committee members.
- (c) The national committee shall make all decisions as to the administration of the Association's affairs, finances, and properties. All such decisions are to be consistent with the aims of the Association.
- (d) The Association's national bank account shall be held in trusteeship by the three executive officers of the committee.
- (e) At least two of the three executive officers must co-sign cheques and other financial transactions.
- (f) The national committee will appoint the editor of the Association's magazine. The editor will exercise control consistent with the aims of the Association in terms of the material printed with the only strictures to be in terms of cost, frequency as decided by the national committee, and the requirement that the editor makes space available for branch news.

SECTION FIVE---National Subscription Dues

- (a) All membership dues shall be paid to the administrative centre of the Association.
- (b) membership will remain current for a period of thirty-one days beyond the due date for renewal.
- (c) Subscription Dues rates will be set at the AGM.

SECTION SIX---Annual General Meeting

- (a) There shall be held in April an Annual General Meeting at which the accounts will be presented, officers elected, dues set, and also any general business raised by the members.
- (b) Minutes of the AGM shall be kept and made available to all members.
- (c) All members shall be notified in advance of the date, time and place of the AGM.
- (d) The quorum for an AGM shall be eight attending members. (continued overleaf...)

- (e) Motions may be put to the AGM by all members. Postal motions should if possible have the name of a seconder affixed and a written argument for the adoption of the motion.
- (f) Voting at the AGM shall be by show of hands unless any one member present asks for a secret ballot.
- (g) members unable to attend the AGM may assign to a member who will be present the right to vote on their behalf on a specified issue. Such voting rights must be notified in writing and signed by the member unable to attend.

SECTION SEVEN---Branches and Affiliated Clubs

- (a) Science fiction clubs or groups with 75% of their membership also being members of the Association may, if they wish, be designated as Branches of the Association.
- (b) The financing of such clubs or groups shall be the responsibility of their membership.
- (c) A club designated as a Branch of the Association has the right to apply for financial assistance from the Association for special projects.
- (d) Granting of such assistance shall be at the discretion of the national committee.
- (e) A club or group designated as a Branch of the Association shall have the right to a space in the Association's magazine for the reporting of its activities.

SECTION EIGHT---Wind up the Association

- (a) In the event of the Association being wound up, the national committee will dispose of its assets in such a way as is consistent with the aims of the A Association.

SECTION NINE---How to Change This Constitution

- (a) The Constitution of the Association can be altered only by a postal ballot of the membership.
- (b) Initiative for this may come from the national committee or at least five members acting together for this purpose. The national committee must act upon such an initiative.
- (c) a $\frac{2}{3}$ (two thirds) majority of votes cast is required to amend or alter the Constitution.

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Constitution typed on 18th January 1981. Was proposed and passed at committee meetings of 10th June and 17th June 1979.

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