



The Australian Science Fiction
Bullsheet
#128 October 15 1999

An insipient newszine produced for the Australian National Science Fiction Association by Marc Ortlieb, P.O. Box 215, Forest Hill, Vict, 3131, AUSTRALIA
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Available for items of gossip. E-mailed direct, a once off \$10 fee. Free copy from aus.sf on Internet or at <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~sfoz/bullsheet.htm>



Meanwhile, my study of recent science fiction, *Transrealist Fiction: Writing in the Slipstream of Science* is being edited at Greenwood Press, USA, for July 2000 release, and a new YA sf novel by Rory Barnes and me, *Hell's Teeth*, is under submission."

Big Heart Award

One of the Big Heart Awards, given by Forrest J. Ackerman, and announced at Aussiecon Three, was to go to Chris Collier of Australia. In reply to the question of who Chris is, Forry replied "A loner who's been extremely kind to me over many years." Apart from a Brisbane address, that's all the information Forry offered.

In Print

The special Aussiecon Three Edition of *Interzone*, #146, August 1999, is now generally available here. It includes new fiction by Australians Sean McMullen, Catherine McMullen, Terry Dowling, Kate Orman, Anthony Morris, Robert N Stephenson and S. Ivan Jurisevic, plus a piece by the token New Zealander Peter Friend. The issue also features artwork by Nick Stathopoulos and reviews of Australian fiction. *Locus* 465 reviews *Strange Constellations: A History of Australian Science Fiction* by Russell Blackford, Van Han & Sean McMullen. I must have missed this one. I can't remember seeing any reference to it elsewhere else.

In Electrons

Video creator and Masquerade MC extraordinaire Danny Heap has started A Reel Life, a regular feature for the *Festivale Online Magazine* <http://www.festivale.webcentral.com.au/index.htm>

Want to help to write a novel? The following is offered:— "Help write *TransMat2*. The first novel, *TransMat*, left the world in an unholy mess and everyone, including hordes from the future, wants Elijah to fix it. You can share in the authorship of "TransMat2" This will be a www-built project and will remain published on the web, free for all to read. (Each successful submitter retains her/his own copyright but gives me permission to publish it on this web site for as long as I like.) Submissions are

George Turner Prize

Bantam Books have sent out entry forms for the third George Turner Prize Competition. It is for unpublished fantasy or science fiction manuscripts by Australian residents. Works should be between 60,000 and 150,000 words. There is an entry fee of \$30. The prize is \$10,000, which is an advance against royalties. The deadline is 5:00pm, January 28 2000. The judging panel will be chaired by Fiona Henderson. Entry forms are available from The George Turner Prize, Transworld Division, Random House Australia Pty Ltd, 20 Alfred St, Milson's Point, NSW 2061.

Damien Broderick in New Zealand

Damien Broderick notes "I had the great good fortune and pleasure to be invited to Auckland at the end of September to be a keynote speaker (with Dr Jack Cohen, who has designed some of the best aliens in sf and written fascinating theoretical work with mathematician Dr Ian Stewart) at BioLive '99, a conference of NZ biology teachers. More recently, I gave an invited public address at the Victoria University of Technology on matters Spikish and Last Mortal, briefly exploring the prospects of humanity in an epoch of accelerating technology.

invited for the next instalment of TransMat2
<http://ching.apana.org.au/~oliri/trans2.html> "

Bullsheet Media Watch

Fiona Capp reviews *Women of Other Worlds* (Merrick & Williams) in *The Saturday Age* 2/10/99. In the same issue, Graeme Base's *The Worst Band in the Universe* is listed as #7 in the Best Seller's List. John Marsden's *The Other Side of Dawn* made it to #1 on the same list on October 9. Michael O'Brien comes close to admitting that he's seen a few R-Rated movies in a letter to *The Herald-Sun* 29/9/99. The letter deals with the dubious merits of *Sex and the City*. (Thanks to David Russell for a copy of the letter. He even suggested a headline "Michael O'Brien no longer interested in sex!") Chuck McKenzie is interviewed in *Writing Australia* Vol 2 Issue 2. Damien Broderick reviews Lynn Margulis's *The Symbiotic Planet* in *The Weekend Australian* 9/10/99. Tom Collins reported that, on October 2nd *Wookie Radio*, on Melbourne's SRA (94.9FM) presented an interview with the director and deputy-director of "Starwalking" The Australian Star Wars Fan Club and an interview with Robert Jordan. They have live streaming audio at <http://www.sra.org.au>. Sara Douglass' *Crusader*, Greg Egan's *Diaspora* and Dann & Webb's *Dreaming Down Under* are on the latest Doubleday F&SF Book Club flier, a copy of which fell out of my *New Scientist* this week. Sarah Endacott had a letter criticising the Australian Skeptics, in *The Age* 5/10/99.

What Does SFA Stand For?

Ali Kayn notes that, following Aussiecon Three, there has been further discussion regarding the formation of a professional body for Australian science fiction, fantasy & horror writers. Much of this has been on the Internet. There is a discussion group that can be contacted via sfa@sf.org.au Further to this, Australian SF Online notes that "'SF Australia", an organisation dedicated to the support and promotion of speculative fiction in Australia" was discussed at Aussiecon Three and that it is "a revival of the once-proposed creation of ASSWF (Australian Society of Speculative Fiction Writers)." which "now encompasses anyone within the genre in Australia, including playwrights, artists, writers and filmmakers." The Web Page is at <http://www.sf.org.au/sfa/>

Foyster's Origins Unmasked

Leigh Edmonds posted this to the Australian fanhistory mailing list. "A little footnote to fannish history. Last weekend Valma and I were at a conference about the history of local newspapers in Chiltern. Not a bad event in its way, but if you've published a newszine none of the problems of publishing local newspapers are new to you. I happened to mention this to one of the other speakers during lunch and to my amazement he used the term fanzine as though everyone knew it well. "You'd know Max Foyster then," he said. I looked blank for a second and then recalled that the fine fellow we

know as John Foyster is aka Max Foyster to many family and friends.

"Indeed," I replied, "We've published the occasional fanzine."

"Well, I'm responsible for him... for him being involved in science fiction."

The story unfolds that in 1955 when John Foyster was sick in bed he wanted something to read and my informant supplied him with the hard stuff, some copies of sf magazines. And the rest is history, as they say. I have the informant's card. He's Dr Thomas Darragh, Senior Curator in Invertebrate Palaeontology at the Museum of Victoria. [Why am I not surprised that someone with details of John Foyster's pre-history would have something to do with palaeontology?]

Fan Funds

Further to her note on Linnette Horne, Yvonne Rousseau adds "Although Linnette is recuperating at home (with Sophie the Cat), she is by no means well, and must undergo many more tests. Apparently she was admitted to hospital not because of a heart attack but because of arrhythmic fibrillation: her heart beating 200 times a minute (whereas the human norm is between 80 and 100 times a minute). Her heartbeat is now nearer normal, but not ideal."

Ian Gunn Memorial Fund

Karen Pender-Gunn reports "The Ian Gunn Memorial Fund has donated \$500 to the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria. I also got a letter from Gail Plumstead (Sponsorship office at the Zoo). The pink pig money box I took along the Tuesday after the worldcon netted \$135.45 for the Fijian Banded Iguana. Not bad for small change!"

Upcoming Conventions

PhanCon 99 November 28 Phantasia Bookshop 443 High St Penrith NSW 2750. Guests Ian Irvine, Caiseal Mor, Richard Harland, Kate Forsyth, Maxine McArthur, Traci Harding & Alison Goodman. \$25. Contact P.O. Box 1255 Penrith NSW.

Whovention 2000 Australian National Doctor Who Convention. February 4 - 6 2000 GsoH: Sylvester McCoy (7th Dr) and Nicola Bryant (Peri). Fan Guest: Karen Herkes Rydges North Sydney \$105 to October 31st, then \$120 to January 15th. At door rate is \$140 and day rate of \$80. Children's under 16, \$10 less than adult rates. Make all cheques payable to Whovention (not Whovention 2000) P.O. Box 4 Epping NSW 2121 Australia whovention@eagles.com.au

<http://www.eagles.com.au/~whovention>
Highlander Down Under 3 April 14-16 2000 Mercure Hotel Brisbane GsoH Peter Wingfield, Valentine Pelka & Anthony De Longis \$165 P.O. Box 198 Brisbane Albert St Qld 4002 ph (07) 3282 4220. sonjav@powerup.com.au <http://www.powerup.com.au/~sonjav/>

Swancon 25 39th National Australian Science Fiction Convention April 20th-24th, 2000. Ascot Inn, Belmont, WA. GsoH Connie Willis and Ian Nichols. Gratuitous interstate guest "Mitch" Other guests include Stephen Dedman, Sue Isle, Jack Dann, Janeen Webb, Sean Williams

and Tess Williams swancon25@megabyte.murdoch.edu.au
<http://www.swancon.iinet.net.au> Swancon 25 GPO Box
 G429 Perth W.A. 6892 \$70 Aus until January 1st 2000 \$20
Friends of Science Fiction Mini-Con May 7 2000 10:00am
 to 6:00pm Guest (commitments pending) : Nicole deBoer.
 \$50 FSF members and \$60 nonmembers (02) 9523 8385
fsf@nlc.net.au P.O Box 797, Fairfield, NSW, 1860.
Cond'Or The 2000 National SF Convention *June 3 to 5 2000*
 West Plaza Hotel Wellington enquiries@condor.sf.org.nz
Chicon 2000 The 58th World Science Fiction Convention
August 31 to September 4, 2000 - Hyatt Regency Chicago IL
 GsoH Ben Bova, Bob Eggleton, Jim Baen, Bob and Anne
 Passovoy, Toastmaster: Harry Tuttle \$US135.00 for
 residents of North America \$US150.00 rate for bona fide
 residents of other continents P. O. Box 642057, Chicago IL
 60664, fax: 312-946-3779 <http://www.chicon.org/>
Swancon 2001 the Masquerade, 40th Australian National
 Science Fiction Convention *April 13-16 2001*. GsoH tba The
 Rydges Hotel Perth. P.O. Box 162 Nedlands W.A. 6909.
swancon2001committee@egroups.com
<http://www.sf.org.au/swancon2001>
Odyssey Con The 2001 National SF Convention Auckland.
 enquiries@odyssey-con.sf.org.nz
The Millennium Philcon The 59th World Science Fiction
 Convention *August 30 to September 3, 2001* The
 Pennsylvania Convention Center & Philadelphia
 Marriott Hotel GsoH Greg Bear, Stephen Youll, Gardner
 Dozois, George Scithers Toastmaster: Esther Friesner.
 Supporting \$US 40 Millennium Philcon Post Office Box
 310 Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006-0310 U.S.A.
phil2001@unix3.netaxs.com
<http://www.netaxs.com/~phil2001>
Costume Con20 - February 15-18 2002 Melbourne
 Exhibition and Convention Centre \$A50 Daily Admission
 \$100 until Dec 31st 2000; \$A130 Jan 1st 2001 - Dec 31st 2001
 \$160 Jan 1st 2002 - Feb 15th 2002 The Australian
 Costumers' Guild PO Box 322 Bentleigh Vic 3204
stilskin@netspace.net.au
<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~costume/>
Conjose The 60th World Science Fiction Convention
August 29 to September 2, 2002 San José McEney
 Convention Centre GsoH Vernor Vinge, David Cherry, Bjo
 & John Trimble, Ferdinand Feghoot Toastmaster Tad
 Williams. P.O. Box 61363 Sunnyvale CA 94088-1363
 U.S.A. Conjose@sfsfc.org <http://www.sfsfc.org/worldcon/>
 Attending \$A150. Supporting \$A50.
GoH=Guest of Honour
O.C.P. = Other Commitments Permitting
tba=to be announced.

Club News

Force#35 notes the winners of the 1999 Obie Awards,
 presented at The Force 3 Convention. Richard Day Award
 Tracey Payne & Greg Smythe, **Obies (Amateur) Writing**
 Christian Appleton; **Costume** Kerri Valkova; **Art** Darren
 Reid; **Hard/Soft Craft** Karen Fletcher; **Audio Visual** H.
 Gibbens. **Obies (Professional)** Art Hugh Fleming;
Hard/Soft Craft Don Bies. In the Fan Film Festival,
 prizes went to *Bounty Trails*, *Sacrifices* and *The Dark*
Redemption.

Events

Note that there is an annual calendar available on the
 Vicnet SF web site at
<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~sfoz/1999cal.htm>

N.S.W.

Sydney Futurians *October 15 7:00 for 7:30* Room 1615 UTS
 Tower <http://linus.socs.uts.edu.au/~iwoolf/writings.html>
BOBW7 *October 23/24 1999* Sydney University Richard
 Biggs, Bruce Boxleitner. Marjean Holden and Sandy
 Bruckner Contact (02) 9453 0290
Southern Science Fiction Group *November 13 2pm 15*
 Shade Place Lugarno. You must read this. Discussion of
 books exchanged in September. Why did you give this
 book to this person? What did you think of the one you
 got? Postal Address 15 Shade Place Lugarno (02) 9534-
 3595. elvey@mcme.com.au
Friends of Science Fiction *November 14* Lidcombe Catholic
 Club, 24 John St Lidcombe fsf@nlc.net.au P.O Box 797
 Fairfield NSW 1860 Phone/ Fax (02)9523 8385
Skyforce Sydney *December 12* Christmas Party Lidcombe
 Catholic Club, 24 John St Lidcombe

Queensland

Vortex *November 7* Red Cross Centre 409 Adelaide St
 Brisbane GPO Box 2004 Brisbane Qld 4001
Highlander Down Under *November 21* Red Cross Centre
 409 Adelaide St Brisbane PO Box 198 Brisbane Albert St
 Qld 4002 sonjav@powerup.com.au
New Alliance *December 5* PO Box 12083 Elizabeth St/BC
 Brisbane Qld 4002
Conquest *December 5* Red Cross Centre 409 Adelaide St
 Brisbane GPO Box 1376 Brisbane Qld 4001

South Australia

Critical Mass *November 3* Jacq Felis tba Writers Centre
 Adelaide PO Box 3355, Rundle Mall, Adelaide, SA 5000
dmw@pobox.com

Victoria

MSFC *October 15* Should Voyager get home? *October 22*
 Author Night, *October 29* Trivia Quiz 8:00 pm St. David's
 Uniting Church Hall, 74 Melville Road, West Brunswick
 P.O. Box 212 World Trade Centre Melbourne 3005
Friday Night Mob *October 15* ANZAPA distributed
October 22, October 29 6-7.30pm. Informal eating and
 nattering. Myers Cafeteria Melbourne
Aust Babylon 5 Fan Club *October 15 8:30 pm* S.G.M. to
 either elect a committee or to disband the club. St. David's
 Uniting Church Hall, 74 Melville Road, West Brunswick
Enterprise *October 23* Bad Taste Trek Day Postal Address
 P.O. Box 466 World Trade Centre Melbourne 3005
enterprise@minerals.csiro.au
[http://www.vicnet.net.au/~enterprise/\(03\)95153226](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~enterprise/(03)95153226)
 (7pm to 10pm only)
The Melbourne Anime Society *October 23 5:00pm* R2
 Theatre in the Rotunda at Monash University Clayton
 Campus charley@alphalink.com.au

<http://www.anime.com.au/mas/index.html>
1470 North Rd Clayton Vic 3168

Skyforce November 2 Annual Cup Day Picnic November 27 Christmas Party St Mark's Church Hall Camberwell. (Note change of date.) P.O. Box 427 Northcote 3070
kryten@werple.net.au

<http://www.imageworks.com.au/starwalking.htm>

Nova Mob November 3 Andrew Macrae on Cyberpunk 13 Frederick St Brunswick.

Time Trekkers November 5 St Luke's Sternberg St Support Centre, 46 Sternberg St Bendigo P.O. Box 934 Bendigo Vic

Austrek November 6 2:00pm All club's day St Mark's Church Hall Cnr Canterbury & Burke Rds, Camberwell GPO Box 5206AA Melbourne 3001 03 9489 8743

<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~austrek/>
austrek@vicnet.net.au

Dandenong Valley Science Fiction Group November 10 Relationships and gender roles in science fiction Meeting Room Dandenong Library Stuart St Dandenong Ann McGann P.O. Box 706 Frankston Vic 3199 Phone Daniel 9544 9775 e-mail luddite@hotmail.com 3552

Costumers Guild October 31 Ross House, Flinders' Lane Melbourne November 21 11:00 am A Victorian Safari The Annual Victorian Picnic Melbourne Zoo. PO Box 322

Bentleigh Vic 3204. stilskin@netspace.net.au
<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~costume/>

Western Australia

The West Lodge November 6 Collins Street Centre, Collins Street South Perth P.O. Box 190 Mt Lawley WA 6050 <http://www.iinet.net.asu/~fizzgig/>

Web Pages

New

Dreamstone

<http://www.dreamstone.com.au>

New Zealand SF Index

<http://www.sf.org.nz/>

SF Australia

<http://www.sf.org.au/sfa/>

TransMat2

<http://ching.apana.org.au/~oliri/trans2.html>

Fanzine News

Karen Johnson is looking for material for *Out of the Kaje*. "Did you come all the way to Australia to go to Aussiecon III? Was it your first (or forty-first) convention? Did you have a great time, or perhaps wish you hadn't wasted your money (hope no-one thinks this though) Either way, I want to know about it. *Out of the Kaje #6* is going to be the post-Aussiecon Round-up issue, so I can tell the world all about it, but I've got a slight problem. Aussiecon III passed as a blur for me! I was so busy working on the Con that I'm having a great deal of difficulty writing about it! So, I'd like your reports instead (as well...) please, pretty please :-). Length: somewhere between 100 and 500 words (if you need a different amount that's fine) E-mail them to me at karenji@labyrinth.net.au and if you include

your snail address I'll send you a copy of the finished zine shortly before Christmas."

Locus 465 reports on Aussiecon Three, with particular attention paid to the Hugo Awards. It has a good selection of photographs too. As a fellow newszine editor, I cannot help but gloat that even a Hugo-winning newszine like *Locus* gets it wrong sometimes. Janice Gelb is referred to as the TAFF winner. (Given that Maureen Kincaid Speller, the real TAFF winner, was at the con, I guess it was an honest confusion) *Locus* also got the date of Ian Gunn's death wrong, noting it as "earlier this year."

Fanzines

The Force 35 Jan Wilson for Star Walking P.O. Box 427 Northcote Vic 3070

Locus 465 Charles N. Brown P.O. Box 13305 Oakland CA 94661 USA

Vanamonde 318-322 John Hertz 236 S. Coronado St No 409 Los Angeles CA 90057 USA

Electronic Zines

The Paper Snarl Issue #4 PaperSnarl@aol.com

<http://www.papertiger.co.uk>.

Ansible 147 Dave Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, UK. Fax 0118 966 9914. ISSN 0265-9816. E-mail ansible@cix.co.uk. Available for SAE, bentlam, condamine, D, hellflower or porgee.

Emerald City 49 Cheryl Morgan

cmorgan@ceres.wallis.com or <http://www.emcit.com>

Fans Across the World Newsletter 91 B. Wilkinson, Ground Floor Flat, 8 West Avenue Road, Walthamstow, E17 9SE, Great Britain bjw@cix.co.uk fax: 0181-925-7126
Australian SF Online Erika Lacey righ@uq.net.au
<http://tatooine.fortunecity.com/sagan/74/>

Deadlines

Bullsheet #129

October 26 1999.

ANZAPA 191

October 8 1998

George Turner Prize

January 28 2000

This Fanzine Supports The Minneapolis in '73

WorldCon Bid and The Toronto in 2003

WorldCon bid. It May Well Support a bid for Australia in 2007 if it gets any further

information.

Leading Art by Sheryl Birkhead Other Art by Bill Rotzler

Noted

TAFF

Ulrika O'Brien (uaobrien@earthlink.net) notes that nominations for the next TAFF race open soon. "The upcoming race being a Europe-to-North America race, candidates will need nominations from three European and two North American fans."