

A slack but frequent little science fiction newsletter produced for the Australian National Science Fiction Association by Marc Ortlieb, P.O. Box 215, Forest Hill, Vict, 3131, AUSTRALIA (e-mail: mortlieb@vicnet.net.au).

Postal subscriptions \$6-00 for ten. (Cheques made out to Marc Ortlieb please. Stamps accepted). Available for items of gossip. E-mail copies free. Ask to be put on the mailing list, or grab it from aus.sf on Internet or the Ausom FC BBS 9545-5215 <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~vicvol/sfoc/sfpage.htm>

The Population Explosion Continues

LynC and Clive Newall added Estelle Maree to their family at 21:21 on February 6. She weighed in at (3430g 7lb9oz). Cath Ortlieb, who was present, noted "No stitches, the bitch." Mother & daughter doing fine. Clive has been looking after Roger and is looking a touch frazzled.

Goodbye to BoSh

Bob Shaw died on February 11. I will miss him. I know I'm not the only one. I only really spent time with Bob twice: at Bhamacon in 1981 and at and after Aussiecon Two in 1985 and on both occasions found him to be one of the gentlest and most entertaining people I'd met. You never felt you were in the presence of an Author, but instead of a Good Bloke.

He was special. Who else can you think of who will save your life on one day and be found washing your breakfast dishes the next? After Aussiecon Two, Cath drove Bob, Art Widner and me out to the Apostles and fell asleep at the wheel. Bob, who was in the front passenger seat, grabbed the wheel and brought us safely to a halt, then drove us to Geelong, allowing Cath much needed sleep. (He was the only other driver in the car.) The next morning, we found him up bright and early, washing the dishes.

Bob suffered a heart attack and liver failure, complicated by pneumonia. He improved enough to return to Britain where he died.

I will miss Bob's writing, not so much his fiction, though I rate "Light of Other Days" as one of the finest sf short stories, but his fan writing. His fan writing sparkled and you could always sense the smile behind his words. Fandom has been diminished.

"(The) funeral is Monday, February 19, 1996 at St. Thomas church in Stockton Heath, Warrington, Cheshire at 10:15. You can send memorial donation cards and letters to Nancy and Bob's children c/o Bob's daughter Denise at 17 Victoria Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington, Cheshire. The family requests donations in lieu of flowers and will announce their donation preference soon.

After the 26th of February, cards and letters can be sent directly to Nancy Shaw at 695 Judd Road, Saline, Michigan 48176 USA"

Is Terry Frost An Antifarm?

Re Terry Frost's ordination, Denny Lien notes "The Universal Life Church must have gotten a LOT more bureaucratic and hidebound in its old age. When I joined, back around 1970, there was no requirement to "believe in the freedom of religion, and do good." All I had to do was send in a postcard.

According to various rumors, many pets and at least one ant farm became Universal Life ministers in those days. (The theological implications of an ordained gestalt-entity-ant-farm are staggering.) I would imagine the new requirements would forbid such ministries, on the theory that (say) my cats Dover and Little Nell do not "believe in the freedom of religion" (they both believe in lap worship, and do not believe that I ought to have the freedom to believe in standing up and ignoring themology) and while Dover might be willing to do good if he were clever enough to do anything, there's no way Little Nell is not part of the forces of Chaotic Evil. So why should I continue my pastoral duties in a religion so uptight that it refuses to ordain my cats? I ask you.

The Reverend Denny Lien, Minister Without Portfolio But I Know I Left It Around Here Someplace In the Middle of One of the Piles of Books "

Awards

Rumour has it that the Aurealis Awards will be announced in the next issue, due real soon now. People like Sean McMullen and Justin Ackroyd have been looking smug about the number they know already. Meanwhile Greg Egan is, by all accounts, somewhat embarrassed by the fuss over *Distress*, and has released the following comment. "An Open Letter to Australian Literary Fandom Over the last few weeks, it's been repeatedly brought to my attention that a novel of mine, *Distress*, has been generating a certain amount of controversy over the question of the appropriate year for its eligibility in the Ditmar Awards, since it was published in the UK in December 1995 but is not due for official Australian distribution until March or April of this year.

Although I have a personal view on the appropriate year of eligibility in this case -- and on the need for extensive reforms to the Ditmar process in general -- I do not feel free to argue about the rules while I have a personal stake in the outcome.

Accordingly, I wish to withdraw *Distress* and all my other works from contention for the Ditmar Awards, this year and into the indefinite future. Although there is no provision for such a withdrawal under the official rules, I respectfully request that anyone who actually read and enjoyed the works be kind enough to desist from nominating them, or voting for them. Greg Egan"

Perry Middlemiss notes that he is the local agent for the FAAN Awards. Nominations can be sent to him at larrikin@ncc1701.apana.org.au or snailmail GPO Box 2708X Melbourne 3001.

Hugo Nomination forms are now available. Members of Intersection (last year's WorldCon in Britain)

and LAcon III are entitled to nominate. If you have become a supporting member of LAcon, in order to vote for Australia in '99, you are entitled to nominate. There are a number of good eligible Australians and pieces of Australian fiction.

Convention Information

The Festival of the Imagination has released its January Newsletter. An ASFMA nomination form was included. There is a piece on GoH Storm Constantine which explains that she is a British Fantasy writer. Please note that I neglected to note that Janeen Webb is also one of the Festival's GsoH. Medtrek 5 have released their PR #3. Basicon 2 is changing its venue, but has not announced the new one yet.

Upcoming Conventions

Ozcon 5 Comics/Trading cards/Media

Melbourne February 17-18 Royal Exhibition Buildings
(02) 267-1693

NewtCon '96 March 9-10 Molly Morgan Motor Inn East Maitland NSW. Relaxacon. \$20 + accommodation. Peter McMullen P.O. Box 388 The Junction NSW 2291 (049) 90-2438

The Festival Of The Imagination '96. Lit/Media NatCon April 4-8. Kings Hotel Perth. GsoH Storm Constantine, Neil Gaiman, Robin Pen, Jack Dann, Janeen Webb. \$75 until 28/2/96. GPO Box G429, Perth, 6001 Ph:(09) 361 8210 or (09) 381 7534. E-mail richards@iinet.net.au.
<http://www.iinet.net.au/~mjl/festival/>

The Reunion #4 April 20-22 Susan Clarke 6 Bellevue Road Faulconbridge NSW 2776

Parliament Of Dreams May 3-5 (Babylon 5) GoH Jerry Doyle (Garibaldi)(O.C.P) Radisson Hotel, North Quay, Brisbane (07) 3266-4040 or (07) 3375-1775 PO Box 492, Corinda, QLD 4075

Conquest 96 September 27-29 GsoH Marina Sertis, Majel Barrett & Richard Arnold. Mecure Hotel Brisbane. GPO Box 1376 Brisbane Qld 4001.

Whovention III - Continuity 13th National Dr Who Convention October 4-7 GsoH Elisabeth Sladen, Tony Howe Rydges North Sydney \$100. P.O. Box 148 Gladesville NSW 2111

Mutagen tba GPO Box 910G Melbourne 3001

Constellation NZ Natcon: Queens Birthday Weekend 1996 The Christchurch City Travelodge, NZ GsoH Michael Moorcock, Peter Jackson, James Dignan \$50.00 during 1994/5 P.O. Box 29-119, Fendalton, Christchurch NZ.
Email: c.brandenburg@lincoln.ac.nz

Medtrek V January 25-27 1997 UWS Hawkesbury Richmond NSW GsoH Marilyn Pride & Lewis Morley \$50 until June 30. Susan Clarke 6 Bellevue Road Faulconbridge NSW 2776

BasiCon 2 1997 Media NatCon venue tba \$20. Date and other details tba. P.O. Box 567 Blackburn 3130

Conspiracy 1997 18th New Zealand National Science Fiction Convention March 28 to 31 1997. Airport Hotel Wellington N.Z. GsoH: Pat Cadigan (confirmed) Danny

John-Jules & Robert Llewellyn (O.C.P). Dan McCarthy. Australian address PO Box 1044, Bundoora, Victoria 3083. Full NZ\$55 / AU\$50 until 3/6/96, thereafter NZ\$60 / AU\$54. Supp NZ\$15 / AU\$14. PO Box 10104, Wellington, New Zealand. Email: concom@sans.vuw.ac.nz
Force 2 (Star Wars) June 7-9 1997 Edmund Barton Conference Centre 488 South Rd Moorabbin Vic P.O. Box 427 Northcote 3070
Australia in '99 Bid for the 1999 World Science Fiction Convention. \$10 pre-supporting rate. P.O. Box 99 Bayswater 3153.

GoH = Guest of Honour
O.C.P. = Other Commitments Permitting
tba= to be announced.

Other Events

N.S.W.

Southern Science Fiction Group. February 17 2pm 15 Shade Place Lugarno (02) 534-3595.

Valentine's Ball February 17 1996 7.00pm Elim House Burwood NSW Susan Clarke 6 Bellevue Road Faulconbridge NSW 2776

The Winter Ball August 31 1996 7.00pm Elim House Burwood NSW Susan Clarke 6 Bellevue Road Faulconbridge NSW 2776

Newcastle Doctor Who Science Fiction Club 3rd Sunday of the month, Alice Ferguson Community Centre, 30 Caldwell St Merewether P.O. Box 140, Kotara Fair 2289, ph (049) 543 603 (049) 43 2666

e-mail shadow@scorch.hna.com.au

Babylon 5 OZ Fan Club PO Box 161 Adamstown NSW 2289. Fanzines *The Babble-on Babylon 5* and *Gold Channel* e-mail shadow@scorch.hna.com.au

Futurian Science Fiction Society 3rd Friday of every month. Room 1615 level 16 in the Tower Building of UTS Broadway.

<http://ftoomsh.progsoc.uts.edu.au/~ian/writings.html>

Penrith SF Group (047) 322-179 or (047) 301-073

Australian SF Association GPO Box 4440 Sydney 2000

Dr Who Fan Club of Australia PO Box 4 Epping NSW 2121 email: korman@laurel.ocs.mq.edu.au \$9 per year

Gargoyle Club First Friday of month 7.00pm, Royal Exhibition Hotel Surrey Hills

The Thursday Night Group Informal eating and nattering. 5-7pm Thursday Nights. Ali Baba Café on George St.

(Contact Graham Batho (Wk)(02) 213-8641 for details)

Tavern Monthly booze-up for Doctor Who fans in Sydney. First Friday of month, 6 pm. Museum Hotel.

Parramatta SF Discussion Group! 1st Thursday of the month 7pm Infinitas Bookshop, 5/1 Horwood Place, Parramatta. (02 633 5682) ianm@mpx.com.au

Trek Australis P.O. Box H210 Australia Square 2000

Sydney Dr Who Fan Club Anglican Church Hall 2

Rochford St erskinville GPO Box 2870 Sydney 2001

Victoria

MSFC February 16 Cosmic Wimpout February 23 Salad Swap 7.30 pm St David's Church Hall 74 Melville rd West Brunswick P.O. Box 212 World Trade Centre Melbourne 3005

Dandenong Valley Science Fiction Society March 13

8.00pm, Dandenong Library. AGM Ann McGann 63 Woodside Ave, Frankston, 3199. 05971-3645.
Time Trekkers P.O. Box 934 Bendigo 3550.
Austrek March 9 2.00pm Monastery Hall St Francis Church Lonsdale St Melbourne. A.G.M. GPO Box 5206AA Melbourne 3001 e-mail austrek@tbsa.com.au
Enterprise February 24 12.00 noon Did Star Trek get it right? Horticultural Society Hall 31 Victoria St Melbourne P.O. Box 466 World Trade Centre Melbourne 3005 (03) 583 7404

Skyforce (Star Wars) February 24 St Mark's Church Hall, cnr Burke Rd & Canterbury Rd Camberwell. 1.00 to 5.00pm P.O. Box 427 Northcote 3070

Nova Mob March 6 . 13 Frederick St Brunswick. (Note change of venue.)

The First Annual Costumer's Ball June 22 6.30pm Dallas Brooks Hall 300 Albert St East Melbourne. \$42/head (\$38 for members) P.O. Box 322 Bentleigh Vic 3205 (03) 9557-7088

Friday Night Mob Friday Nights 6-7.30pm. Informal eating and nattering. K&Ms, Myer Arcade Melbourne

Gamma Quadrant Outpost A local chapter of the U.S. based Bajoran Alliance, (*Deep Space Nine*) P.O. Box 567 Blackburn 3130 k.pender-gunn@latrobe.edu.au

Australian Babylon 5 Fan Club P.O. Box 41 West Brunswick 3055 Fanzine *Babbling On*

The X-Files Fan Club of Australia P.O. Box 402, Niddrie 3042., Fanzine *The Field Journal*.

Doctor Who Club of Victoria GPO Box 4782UU Melbourne VIC 3001. \$12 per year. Fanzine Sonic Screwdriver. Meetings Second Saturday of the month. email: borad@yoyo.cc.monash.edu.au

Australian Horror Society 1st Thursday of the month, 7.30 pm back room Maori Chieftan Hotel, Moray St Sth Melbourne. P.O. Box 7545 St Kilda Rd Melb. 3004.

Gallifrey is no longer holding meetings

Qld

11:21 (Qld X-Files Club) Contact Flat 2, 10 Roseglen St Greenslopes 4120

Conquest March 3 GPO Box 1376 Brisbane Qld 4001.

S.A.

AUSFA, c/- Clubs Association, University of Adelaide, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5001.

Sastrek Star Trek™ P.O. Box 369 North Adelaide S.A. 5006 (08 337 8759). (Please note the correction)

Critical Mass will start meeting again in SA at the Writers Centre from next Wednesday, and on the first Wednesday of each month until, but not including, December, at 8pm. There's no dinner venue set as yet; in other words, business as usual.

I'm moving house, so my phone no is changing, but I can still be contacted by email to dwarman@maths.adelaide.edu.au or post to: PO Box 3355, Rundle Mall, Adelaide, SA 5000

W.A.

Fund Raiser Quiz (For FotI) February 25 1.00pm The Hyde Park Hotel North Perth. \$30 per table. (09) 361-8210

UniSFA - University of Western Australia Science Fiction Association. See Web page or e-mail (nulsmurf@tartarus.uwa.edu.au)

The West Lodge Doctor Who Fan Club. First Saturday of the month at the Collins Street Centre, South Perth. P.O. Box 190 Mt Lawley 6050

E-Mail : nulsmurf@tartarus.uwa.edu.au

Westrek Star Trek Club of Western Australia Inc. Last Friday of month 6:45pm. (except December second Friday) Labour Centre Building, 82 Beaufort Street Perth. Hall .

P.O. Box 307 Bentley WA 6102 Phone: (09) 356 1757 Email: evans@pf.adied.oz.au

The Neutral Zone Star Trek Last Friday of every month. 6.30pm. Murdoch University, ECL Lecture Theatres 1 and 4. PO Box 1169, Bibra Lake, WA, 6163. Phone (09) 434 4167, email: nzone@iinet.net.au

A.C.T.

Canberra S FS February 29 7pm Laserzone, Woden.. ph (06) 288 6391 (ah) PO Box 47, Civic Square ACT 2608

Fanzines

Pinkette 15b perzine Karen Pender-Gunn P.O. Box 567 Blackburn Vic 3130.

The Strangely Deformed Round Thing #1 perzine Danny Heap P.O. Box 224 Moreland Vic 3058.

The Captain's Log # 222 Trek/newszine Katharine Shade for Austrek G.P.O. Box 5206AA Melbourne Vic 3001

Web Pages

AFR

http://www.peg.apc.org/~roman/afr/afr_1/afr_1.htm
Australia in '99

<http://www.maths.uts.edu.au/staff/eric/ain99>

Kathryn Andersen

<http://connexus.apana.org.au/~kat/refract.html>

Australasian Fannish Email Directory

<http://ncc1701.apana.org.au/~larrikin/sfandom/fandom/directry.html>

Babylon 5 OZ Fan Club

<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~bab5oz/bab5oz.html>

Sara Douglass

<http://www.quake.net/~autopen/saradoug.html>

David Grigg

<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~drgrigg>

Doctor Who Club of Victoria

<http://www.yoyo.cc.monash.edu.au/~borad/dwcv-home.html>

Dr Who Fan Club of Australia

<http://www.ocs.mq.edu.au:80/~korman/dwfa.html>

Eidolon

<http://www.midnight.com.au/eidolon>

Festival of the Imagination 1996

<http://www.iinet.net.au/~mjl/festival/>

Futurians

<http://ftoomsh.progsoc.uts.edu.au/~ian/writings.html>

Ibn Qirtaiba

<http://odyssey.apana.org.au/~terminus>

Eric Lindsay

<http://www.maths.uts.edu.au/eric/sf.html>

MedTrek 5

<http://www.ar.com.au/~medtrek>

Perry Middlemiss

<http://ncc1701.apana.org.au/~larrikin/welcome.html>

The Neutral Zone

<http://www.iinet.net.au/~nzone/>

Kate Orman

<http://www.ocs.mq.edu.au:80/~korman>

Ozsf

<http://pyromania.apana.org.au/~coljac/ozsf.html>

Quantum Leap

<http://www.cs.mu.oz.au/~eydc>

Quantum Leap push server animation

<http://www.cs.mu.oz.au/~eydc/push.html>

SF Times

<http://www.spirit.com.au/acm/sftimes.html>

UniSFA

<http://www.gu.uwa.edu.au/clubs/unisfa>

VicNet

<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~vicvol/sfoz/sfpage.htm>

CoAs

Paul Voermanns email address is now paul@vicnet.net.au

Deadlines

FotI Short Story Competition March 30
1996 DUFF Voting April 15 1996

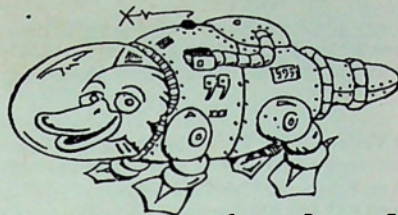
Sources

Alan Stewart, Cath Ortlieb, Clive Newall, Greg Egan, Justin Reynolds, Denny Lien, Joyce Scribner, Damian Warman

Deadline For #49

Tuesday February 27th.

Distribution Friday March 1st.



Australia in '99

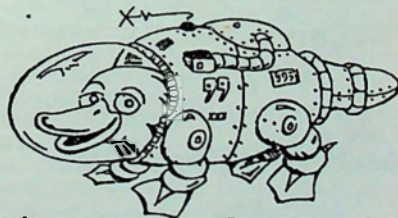
Work on the bid continues apace, with the bid to be presented at LAcon III in September. Donations would still be appreciated as would joining LAcon III and voting for us.

Yes, it will cost you about \$150 all up, once you've become a pre-supporting member of Australia in '99, joined LAcon III as a supporting member, and paid the voting fee, but it will be a lot cheaper than paying the cost of a flight to the U.S. or Zagreb.

Currently our opposition would seem to be Las Vegas and Zagreb. More details on that after the deadline for the posting of bids.

Dick & Leah Smith have been pushing our cause in the U.S. assisted by Cheryl Morgan. We are planning a strong presence at The festival of the Imagination. Talk to us there.

For further information, contact me at the above addresses, Australia in '99 at P.O. Box 99 Bayswater 3153, or take a look at our Web Page.



Australia in '99