



of the Australian Science Fiction Foundation

Vol 4. No 1, April 1992
P.O. Box 428, Richmond, Vic, 3121

New Committee for 1992

At the AGM held on the 19th of January, 1992, a new committee was elected for the Foundation. Well, almost new. Changes include the resignation of Greg Hills as the Publicity Officer (not a committee position) and the election of Clive Newall and LynC as committee members.

So the Committee is now:

President:	Cath Ortlieb
Vice President:	Alan Stewart
Secretary:	Mark Loney
Treasurers:	Carey Handfield

Ordinary Committee Members:

Donna Heenan	responsible for Memberships
LynC	" " Publicity
Clive Newall	

(Welcome to the first Instrumentality put out by the new publicity Officer.)

Chandler Award

The inaugural A. Bertram Chandler Award (dubbed "The Chandler"), voted on by a committee appointed by the Foundation, will be awarded at the awards banquet of the 1992 National SF Convention to be held in Sydney over the Easter period.

This award is designed to complement the current Ditmars, and can recognise achievements that may not have fallen into any one year, but covered a span of years. It is for achievements in either professional or fannish categories, or even both categories.

And now a word from our president ... (and other committee members)

President's Report 1991

In 1991 the Foundation, as well as continuing to foster SF in Australia by sponsoring Short Story Competitions at national Literary and Media conventions, and by providing seed loans to those conventions, moved into different areas. At the last Annual General Meeting, Alan Stewart, now the Vice-President, suggested that the Foundation create a new award for "Outstanding Achievement in Australian SF". Unlike the Ditmars, this award would be decided upon by a jury and, although nominally an annual award presented in conjunction with the Natcon, would not necessarily be presented each year. In recognition of the contribution that A. Bertram Chandler made to Australian SF, his popularity here and his patronage of the Foundation, the new award (after gaining the approval of Bert's widow Susan) is called "The Chandler". The Foundation hopes that the first Chandler Award will be presented at Swancon '92 this year.

The Foundation was also prepared to support a form of the "Modest Proposal" but, as yet, no details have been worked out. I hope somebody will be able to pick up the idea and present a detailed working plan in the near future.

The response to the *Ditmar Design Competition* and the idea of a store of awards was disappointing but the Foundation is still prepared to be a supplier of attractive but reasonably priced awards if there is a future need.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the Committee for the hours of work that they have put into Foundation matters, the members who made an effort to get involved and Swancon 16 for its donation. The Foundation, of course, can only be as effective as the SF community makes it through individual effort and utilisation of the Foundation's resources by groups within the community. As such, I hope that the next year will see more ideas about the development of SF in Australia, more involvement in the Foundation and a continuing increase in the range of activities undertaken by the Foundation.

Cath Ortlieb
President

19 January 1992

Secretary's Report 1991

I think that it is fair to say that 1991 was a year of quiet achievement for the Australian Science Fiction Foundation. As already mentioned in the President's Report, the Foundation successfully moved to establish the Chandler Award during the year. The hard work that now lies ahead is for the Foundation to do justice to its vision of the award and ensure that the Chandler Award becomes respected and acknowledged as an acknowledgement of excellence in Australian SF.

Also of note is the fact that the Foundation now has more than 25% of its cash assets on loan to three major conventions. Both the 1992 and 1993 Australian Science Fiction Conventions, Syncon '92 and Swancon 18 respectively, asked for and have received \$1000 loans from the Foundation. A smaller loan of \$500 has been made to Constantinople, the Melbourne bid for both the 1994 Australian Science Fiction Convention and the 1994 Australian National Science Fiction Media Convention.

Although it cannot yet be said that the financial resources of the Foundation are not equal to the demands being placed upon them, the increasing amount of money lent to conventions, generally over a longer period of time, has made it necessary for the Foundation to review its financial practices. As a result of this the Foundation, after many years with the Commonwealth Bank, will be changing financial institutions to the Telecom CPS Credit Union. This offers the Foundation more flexibility with its accounts, a higher rate of return, and the elimination of bank charges. As a result of these changes the Foundation will both increase its investment income and decrease its costs.

In another change to Foundation procedures, Donna Heenan was appointed Ordinary Committee member responsible for Memberships earlier this year. I think that this has been a useful innovation, allowing one member of the Management Committee to concentrate on this important and previously neglected area.

Although they are not here today, the contribution made by the interstate representatives of the Foundation should not go unremarked. Both Greg Turkich in Perth and Gerald Smith in Sydney provide us with links to the greater national SF community of which we are a part. Gerald, in particular, wrote a number of letters that were valuable contributions to subjects discussed by the management committee.

In closing, I would like to note the contribution made by Greg Hills as the editor of *The Instrumentality* over the last three years. He has consistently produced a professional looking and informative newsletter that has kept both the membership of the Foundation and the SF community generally informed about the activities of the Foundation. As Greg and I are now co-editors of *Thyee*, I can understand his decision to concentrate his time and energies on that project alone - and must admit that I have been tempted to follow his lead! I only hope that the Foundation can find a new Publicity Officer who will publish *The Instrumentality* as frequently and as competently as Greg.

In conjunction with the President, I trust that 1992 will be a year of continuing growth and development for the Foundation.

Mark Loney
Secretary

19 January 1992

Treasurers Report

For the Period November 1st 1990 to October 31st 1991

REVENUE:

Membership Fees		\$40.00	
Subscriptions		\$45.00	
Interest		\$761.67	
Donation	Huttcon	\$100.00	
	Swancon 16	\$100.00	
TOTAL		\$1,046.67	\$1,046.67

EXPENSES:

Postage		\$100.98	
Instrumentality		\$140.00	
Stationary		\$27.00	
Bank Charges		\$36.61	
Subscription		\$4.50	
Short Story Competition			
	Huttcon	\$300.00	
	Vampiricon	\$300.00	
TOTAL		\$909.25	\$909.25
SURPLUS FOR THIS PERIOD			\$137.42

BALANCE SHEET:

ASSETS:

Bank:	Cheque Account	(\$276.42)	
	Investment Account	\$7,396.21	
	Loans		
	Swancon	\$1,000.00	
	Constantinople	\$500.00	
	Syncon	\$1,000.00	
	TOTAL	\$9,619.79	\$9,619.79

LIABILITIES:

nil

MEMBERS FUNDS:

Open balance at November 1st 1990	\$9,482.37
Add: Surplus for Year	\$137.42
Closing balance at October 31st 1991	\$9,619.79

Carey Handfield
Treasurer ASFF Inc

16-Jan-92

Membership Report

As at 5th April 1992, the Foundation had 17 paid up members and 14 lapsed members. It was hoped in 1992 to improve these figures.

LynC (for Donna Heenan)
15th April 1992

Editorial:

Welcome to the first Instrumentality for 1992. Instead of being produced regularly with a general SF content and disseminated widely, it was decided at the AGM this year to restrict future issues to Foundation News and reviews (of books received by the Foundation), and also to limit availability to members only. While this may cause a reduction in the Foundation's profile, it will also (hopefully) contain the costs of The Instrumentality to a level commensurate with subscriptions actually paid.

This in turn means if you wish to learn what the Foundation is up to, you will have to actually join us. From the various reports proffered in this issue, you can see that we are actually helping the SF community, and that your subscriptions and donations are not wasted. Hope you'll qualify to receive the next issue.

LynC, 15/April/92

Guaranteed Nutrition-free Membership Form



Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ Occupation: _____

I, _____, desire to become a member / renew my membership of the Australian Science Fiction Foundation. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the Association for the time being in force.

(Signature of Applicant)

(Signatures of Nominators)

Annual Membership fee of \$5.00 enclosed New Member: \$5.00 joining fee added *

Post completed form to: ASFF Memberships, PO Box 428, Richmond 3121.

* Annual membership is \$5.00. New members pay annual membership plus \$5.00 joining fee, i.e. \$10.00. Victorian regulations for incorporated societies require that new memberships be approved by Committee of Management before taking effect.